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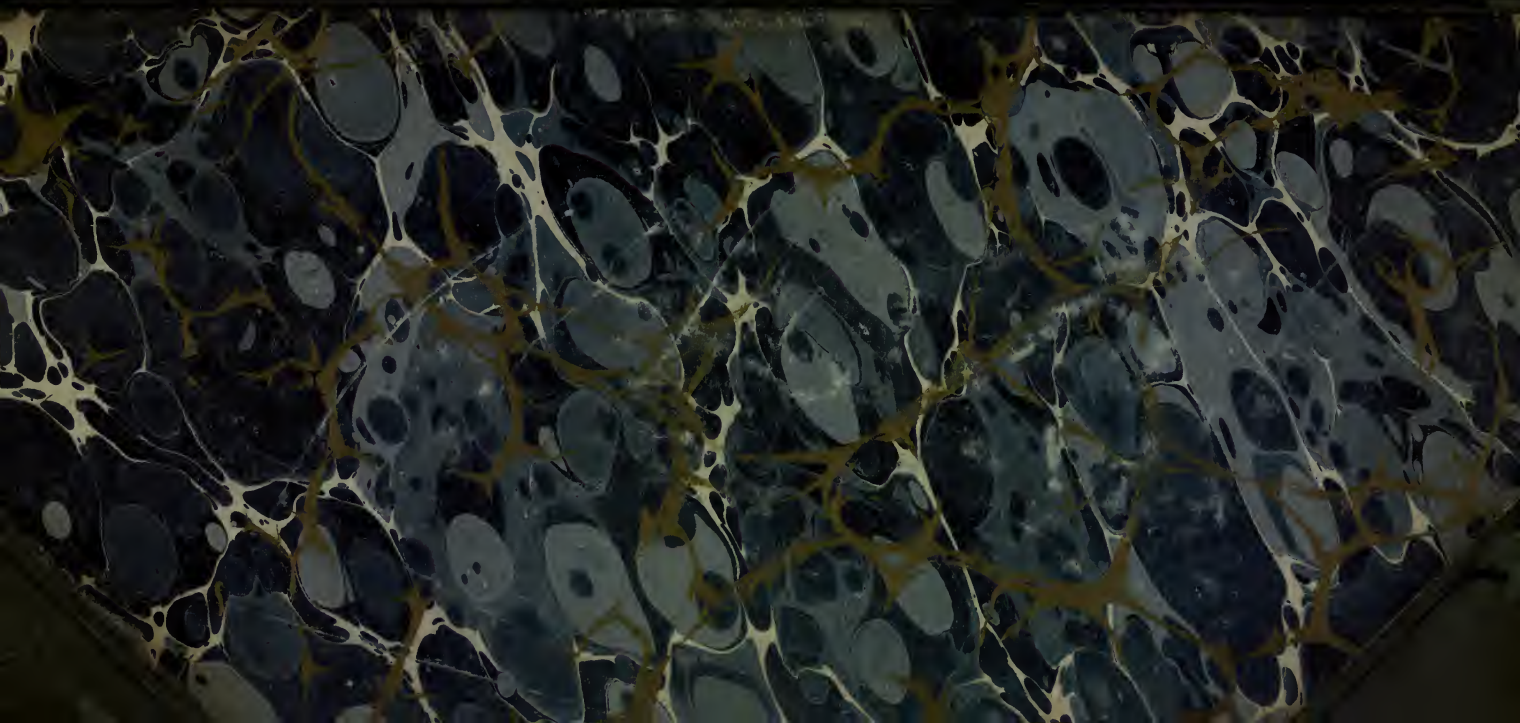

THE EARL OF STIRLING

FROM AN ENGRAVING BY WILLIAM MARSHALL.— P. 167.

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MEMORIALS

OF THE

EARL OF STIRLING

AND OF THE

HOUSE OF ALEXANDER

BY THE

REV. CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D.

HISTORIOGRAPHER TO THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY; FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND; MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEBEC; AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND

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TO

Major-General William Ruxton Eneas Alexander.

My dear Sir,

After a long and honourable career in India, in which you attained distinction, more especially as commander of "Alexander's Horse" during the mutiny, you have been privileged to retire from the perils and anxieties of military service. Your desire to perpetuate the history and celebrate the achievements of your ancestors and of the other members of your House, has led to the production of these "Memorials;" for without your encouragement and substantial assistance, the work would not have been proceeded with. Of the family of Alexander in Ulster, which derives origin from the common ancestors of the Scottish House, you are a senior representative. That you may be spared to crown "a youth of labour by an age of ease," is the wish and hope of,

My dear General,

Your most obedient faithful servant,

CHARLES ROGERS.

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PREFACE.

In preparing these "Memorials," the Author has been less indebted to family papers and private documents than to materials procured after a persevering search in the public archives. During a period of nine years he has prosecuted his researches in the public offices at London, Dublin, Edinburgh, and elsewhere. In the course of several journeys in central Scotland, and in the province of Ulster, he has collected materials from district registers. Whatever interest may attach to the work, he is conscious that he has spared no exertion to effect its completeness, by securing the accuracy of its details. The accounts of existing families have been revised by competent persons belonging to each.

Respecting the career of Sir William Alexander of Menstry, latterly Earl of Stirling, the Author has, among other principal sources of information, been

mainly indebted to his "Register of Royal Letters." That register embraces three folio volumes, of which two, containing transcripts of state documents from February 1626 to June 1635 (with a blank from July 1627 to July 1630), are deposited in the Advocates Library, while the third volume, containing transcripts of letters from January 1626 to December 1631, is preserved in the General Register House. The modern history of the volumes in the Advocates Library is unknown. The volume in the Register House came into the possession of William Trumbull of East Hampstead, a lineal descendant of Lord Stirling, who in December 1759 presented it with other papers to Major William Alexander, the American claimant of the title. In a letter to Major Alexander, Mr Trumbull describes it as "a book of Sir William Alexander's correspondence, while he was Secretary of State for Scotland."* The volume, which was probably sent to London to be used in the House of Lords in prosecuting Major Alexander's claim to the peerage, came into the hands of Mr John Caley, who in May 1792 presented it to Mr Thomas Astle, the well-known archæologist, who in December 1793 granted it, as an inscription bears, to Lord Frederick

* Duer's Life of Major-General William Alexander, *Earl of Stirling*, p. 42.

Campbell, Lord Clerk Register, for preservation in the Register House.

A history of the Scottish House of Alexander would be incomplete without a narrative of the proceedings of Mr Alexander Humphrys or Alexander, and his eldest son, as successive claimants of the earldom of Stirling. A narrative of the case, drawn up from law papers and other documents, is presented in the Appendix.

Among the very many persons to whom he has been indebted for information, the Author may not fail to record his special obligations to Major-General Sir James Edward Alexander of Westerton; Colonel Boyd Alexander of Swifts; Alexander John Alexander, Esq. of Woodburn, Kentucky; Henry M. Alexander, Esq., New York; Henry Alexander, Esq. of Forkill; Miss Jane Alexander, Fivemiletown, Tyrone; and Joseph Alexander, Esq., Enniskillen. From Archibald Campbell Swinton, Esq. of Kimmerghame, he has obtained special assistance, both in matters of pedigree and in the use of materials illustrative of an important trial. To the late Rev. Robert Alexander, rector of Aghadoey, county Londonderry, he was indebted for many genealogical particulars. For varied assistance he desires to name, with senti-

ments of esteem, his friend, Mr David Laing of Edinburgh, whose acquaintance with ancient Scottish lore is not more remarkable than is his desire to render his information serviceable to others.

GRAMPIAN LODGE, FOREST HILL, S.E.
December 1876.

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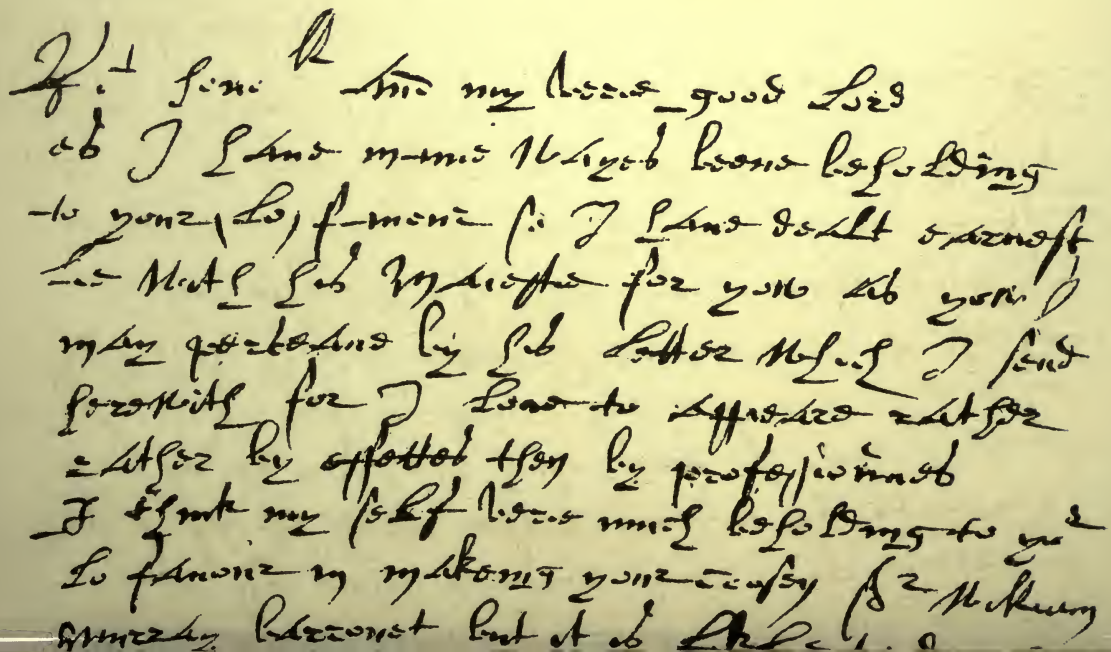

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23 of November

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MEMORIALS

OF

THE EARL OF STIRLING.

CHAPTER I.

FAMILIES OF MACALEXANDER OF KINTYRE, ARGYLESHIRE, AND ALEXANDER OF MENSTRY, CLACKMANNANSHIRE.

A NORWEGIAN settlement was early established in Arran and Bute, and other islands in the west of Scotland. This settlement was effected under the viking Conn Chead Chath of the Hundred Battles. His descendant in the middle of the twelfth century was the renowned Somerled, who exercised a powerful authority in the Western Isles, disputing the sovereignty with David I. When, in 1135, David expelled the Norwegians from Arran and Bute, Somerled was allowed to retain a sort of depute sovereignty in the subjugated territories. Subsequently rebelling, he in 1164 entered the Firth of Clyde with a fleet of one hundred and sixty vessels, intending to usurp the Scottish crown; he was de-

feated at Renfrew, and there slain (Chron. Man., A.D. 1104-64).

Somerled was twice married. By his first wife he had a son, Gillicolane, who fell with him at Renfrew (Chron. de Melros, p. 74; Fordun's Scotichron., vol. viii., cap. 2). He married, secondly, about the year 1140, Effrica, daughter of Olave the Red, King of Man, by whom he had three sons, Dougal, Ranald, and Angus. On the death of their father, Dougal obtained as his share of sovereignty the islands of Mull, Coll, Tiree, and Jura; Ranald, Isla and Kintyre; and Angus, the isle of Bute. From Dougal sprang the MacDougals of Lorne, who styled themselves De Ergedia, or, of Argyle. His branch is represented by the Ducal House of Argyle.

On the death of Dougal, the isles which he ruled, instead of descending to his children, were acquired by his brother Ranald, to whom were born two sons, Donald and Roderick. Roderick was celebrated for his piratical exploits. Donald, the elder son, who claimed the sovereignty of the isles, was father of three sons, Roderick, Angus, and Alexander. The male descendants of Roderick became extinct in the third generation. Angus, the second son, sometime resisted the arms of Alexander III., but on the conquest of the Western Isles by that king, he transferred his allegiance from Norway to the Scottish crown; he died subsequent to 1292. His grandson, John, Lord of the Isles, married, as his second wife, Mar-

garet, daughter of Robert II. His third son, by this marriage, Alexander, Lord of Lochaber, had two sons, Angus and Alister or Alexander; the latter founded the House of MacAlexander, which, under the more modern name of Alexander, forms the subject of this work. In 1481 James III. granted to Tarlach MacAlexander the stewardry of the lands of Kintyre. At the same time Tarlach received a grant of the lands of Auchnaglek and Le Crag, in the barony of Bar, North Kintyre (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x., 9). His son, John Dubh MacAlexander, is mentioned in 1493 (Gregory's Western Highlands).

In 1515 James V. presented Sir Roderick M'Alister, chaplain, to the rectory of Kilquhoan, in Ardnamurchan (Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v., fol. 30). In 1545 and 1546 Sir Roderick, described as Dean of Morvern and Bishop-elect of the Isles, was named by his kinsman, Donald, Lord of the Isles, as one of two commissioners appointed to treat with Henry VIII. When the Lord of the Isles lay with his army at Carrickfergus, Sir Roderick seems to have resided in Dublin, supported by the Privy Council of England (State Papers, vol. iii., pp. 531, 533, 549-568; vol. v., pp. 477, 508). In 1547 he had a remission under the privy seal of Queen Mary "for treasonably passing to Ingland and Ireland, and inbringing of Inglismen within the Ilis and vthir partis within the realm, for burning, heirschip, and destruction" (Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi., fol. 8). A tombstone in Ardchattan Priory,

having in the centre the figure of a churchman in the attitude of prayer, commemorates Sir Roderick by the following inscription: "Hic iacet venerandus et egregius vir Rodericus Alexandri rector quondam Fynani Insule qui obiit anno Domini ——."

The family of MacAlexander held their lands at Tarbert, in Kintyre, under the protection of the Earls of Argyle (Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v., fol. 45). In 1513 Colin, Earl of Argyle, granted to Neil Campbell M'Alexander the lands of Glenscrow and Glenaray, in the barony of Lochaw (Argyle Charters). Among the witnesses to the sasine of a charter granted in 1553 by Archibald, Master of Argyle, to Colin Campbell of Dunstaffnage, of the lands of Killechan, are named Archibald M'Alexander, Malcolm M'Neill M'Alexander, Donald M'Donche M'Alexander, and Duncan, son of Donald M'Donche M'Alexander (Argyle Charters).

Angus, son of John Dubh MacAlexander, acquired the lands of Loupe, Argyleshire (Collectanea de Rebus Albanicis). This branch of the House attached itself for about a century to the more powerful clan Ian Vor (Gregory's Western Highlands). Between the years 1593 and 1604, the Tutor of Loupe granted a bond of manrent to the House of Hamilton for himself and his clan. The lands of Loupe remained in possession of the family till the beginning of the present century, when they were sold by Colonel Somerville Macalister, heir-male of the House (Hill's Macdonnels

of Antrim). The family of Loupe is represented by Keith Macalister, Esq. of Glenbar and Cour, and Alexander Macalister, Esq. of Tangie.

A descendant of Tarlach MacAlexander became hereditary constable of the castle of Tarbert (Gregory's Western Highlands). On the 5th December 1627, Gorrie Alexander, heir-apparent of Tarbert, granted a bond in favour of Archibald Alexander of Tarbert, his father, whereby he disponed to him certain lands in the parish of Glassary; and this, for the security of the said Archibald, as cautioner for the granter in a contract with Hector Alexander and Margaret Campbell, his spouse (Gen. Reg. of Deeds, vol. 474). On the 9th May 1636, Archibald Alexander granted an obligation to Sir Dougal Campbell, Bart. of Auchinbrek, for eleven bolls teind meal, Gorrie Alexander, younger of Tarbert, the granter's son, being a witness (Reg. of Deeds, vol. 498). On the 11th June 1636, Gorrie Alexander, younger of Tarbert, granted to Matthew Colquhoun, merchant-burgess of Glasgow, an obligation for "aucht scoir pundis borrowed money" (Reg. of Deeds, vol. 506). Sometime subsequently, the lands of Tarbert were sold to the family of Campbell of Stonefield.

Prior to the year 1505, a descendant of Alister or Alexander, younger son of the Lord of Lochaber, obtained from the noble House of Argyle a portion of lands at Menstry, in Clackmannanshire. In a legal instrument dated 6th March 1505, "Thomas

Alexander de Menstray" is associated with sixteen others in an arbitration, connected with the division of forty acres of land in Clackmannanshire, about which a dispute had arisen between the Abbot of Cambuskenneth and Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan (Chartulary of Cambuskenneth Abbey, p. 86). In 1631 Archibald Alexander of Tarbert acknowledged Sir William Alexander, Viscount Stirling, as chief of the clan Alister (see *postea*).

The lands of Menstry are situated at the southern base of the Ochil Hills, and were in 1322 granted to Dougal Campbell by King Robert the Bruce. In 1364 Robert Erskine of that ilk made a gift to Colin Campbell, son of Archibald Campbell of Lochaw, of the ward and marriage of the lands of Menstry, belonging to the son and heir to John Campbell of Menstry. The instrument of gift is dated the twentieth day after the feast of St James, 1364 (Argyle Family Papers).

The lands of Menstry were, by Robert III., conveyed to Duncan Campbell, son of Colin Campbell, on the resignation of the latter (Robertson's Index). In 1494 Sir Duncan Campbell granted the lands of Glenurquhay, in the barony of Lochaw, and the lands of Menstry, Clackmannanshire, in warrandice for sixteen merks in gold and silver, to be paid yearly for the lands and castle of Campbell, Dollar, or Gloom, in the barony of Dunkeld, which were granted by Bishop George to Archibald, Earl of Argyle (Athole Charters; Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii., 278).

In 1404 Robert, Duke of Albany, Earl of Fife and Menteith, Governor of Scotland, granted to Duncan Campbell of Lochaw, a charter of the lands of Menstry, which had been resigned by Charles Campbell into the hands of the governor of Stirling Castle. This charter is dated at Stirling, 18th January 1404-5, the witnesses being Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, Chancellor of Scotland; John Stewart, Earl of Buchan, son of the granter; Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland; William Douglas of Lugtown; Dougal and Donald Campbell, brothers-german; Dougal of Quhonny; and Andrew of Hawick, rector of Listoune, secretary to the governor (Argyle Family Papers). On the 15th March 1413, James I. granted a charter, under the Great Seal, to Duncan Campbell of Lochaw, confirming him in the lands of Menstry, on the resignation of Charles Campbell (Argyle Family Papers).

William Alexander, a relative of the original settler at Menstry, acquired a farm on the adjacent lands of Tullibody. On the 23d June 1518, Sir John Crichton of Strathurd continued an action against Sir Ninian Seton, along with fourteen of his tenants, for withholding from him the "malis and dewtis" of the Mains of Tullibody. Among the tenants William Alexander is named (Acta Dom. Con., vol. xxxi., fol. 39).

Andrew Alexander, son of Thomas Alexander of Menstry, succeeded his father in the lands of

Menstry. He married Katherine Graham, by whom he had two sons, Alexander and Andrew; the latter entered the Church, and in a sasine dated 15th November 1529, is styled "Andreas Alexander, presbyter." In a charter dated 8th April 1526, Colin, Earl of Argyle, granted to Andrew Alexander and Katharine Graham, his spouse, the lands of Menstry, in liferent, and to Alexander Alexander, their son and heir-apparent, in fee (Papers in Menstry Charter Chest). Andrew Alexander of Menstry died prior to 1527, and was succeeded by Alexander Alexander, his eldest son. On his succession, Alexander Alexander surrendered the lands of Menstry to Colin, Earl of Argyle, who took sasine of the same in February 1527 (Argyle Family Papers). In a sasine of Colin, Earl of Argyle, in 1529, Alexander Alexander is appointed bailie on the earl's estate in Clackmannanshire; he is designed "honorabilis vir Alexander Alsynder de Menstrie." A charter by James V., dated Stirling, 20th April 1530, confirms, first, a charter of gift of fee-farm, made by Archibald Campbell, lord of the fee of the earldom of Argyle, and Colin Campbell, his father, earl and lord of the said earldom, and master of the household to the king, to Alexander Alsynder and Elizabeth Douglas, his spouse, and the longer liver of them in liferent, and Andrew Alsynder, their son and heir-apparent, in fee, of the five-pound land of old extent called the Mains of Menstry, with the mill and bog of Menstry,

in the sheriffdom of Clackmannan, for an annual payment of 24 bolls corn, 24 bolls barley malt, 24 bolls oatmeal, etc. It confirms, secondly, a charter by Archibald, Earl of Argyle, to his well-beloved servitor Alexander Alsynder of Menstry, of the five-merk land of Dusletter, which umquhil Andrew Alsynder, his father, and Katherine Graham, his mother, formerly alienated, lying in the lordship of Menteith and sheriffdom of Perth, to be held of the said earl and his successors in fee and heritage for ever, on the annual payment of one penny (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii., 19; Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii., fol. 193).

Alexander Alexander married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven, ancestor of the Earls of Morton, by whom he had two sons, Andrew and William, and two daughters, Marion and Isabel.

Marion Alexander married Alexander Murray of Woodend, parish of Madderty, Perthshire; she died in January 1595, leaving three children, John, William, and Agnes. Her testament-dative was administered by her husband, who valued her free estate at £1118, 6s. 8d. Scots; Henry Murray, burgess of Stirling, was cautioner in the administration (Edin. Com. Reg., vol. xxxi.).*

Isabel, second daughter of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, married James Muschet of Burnbank, Stirlingshire. "George Muschet de Burnbank," son and

* The Rev. Robert Murray, of the family of Woodend, was a principal creditor of the Earl of Stirling; he obtained the estate of Menstry, by foreclosing a mortgage, subsequent to the earl's decease.

heir of James Muschet, is named in the Protocol Book of Gilbert Grote, 1552-73. John Muschet, notary-public in Stirling, 1586-93, was another son (Protocol Books in Register House, No. 44).

Alexander Muschet in Menstry was probably a younger son of James Muschet and Isabel Alexander. He married Margaret Forrester, whose brother, "David Forrester in Logie," was husband of Janet Alexander, third daughter of Alexander Alexander of Menstry (see *postea*). Margaret Forrester or Alexander died in September 1613; her inventory was valued at £160 Scots. Her husband, Alexander Muschet, died in February 1616. In his will he nominates "Andrew Alexander in Stirling," as administrator of his affairs and residuary legatee. Among his debtors is named William Alexander in Middleton of Menstry (Stirling Com. Reg.).

David Muschet of Calziehall, grandson of James Muschet and Isabel Alexander, was, along with Sir William Alexander of Menstry, admitted a burgess of Stirling, on the 9th September 1615 (Burgh Records of Stirling). Sir George Muschet, in November 1620, obtained sasine of the lands of Torrie (Reg. of Sasines).

George Muschet, another descendant of James Muschet and Isabel Alexander, was licensed by the Presbytery of Stirling in April 1606, and in 1610 was appointed minister of Dunning, Perthshire. He was deprived of his charge prior to the 14th May 1651, and died in May 1663, aged about eighty (Fasti

Eccl. Scot., vol. ii., p. 757). Among other descendants were Adam Muschet, son of James Muschet of Burnbank, who, in 1651, was admitted a burgess and guild-brother of Stirling (Guildry Records of Stirling); Archibald Muschet, successively minister of Gargunnock, Larbert, and Falkirk, who died in 1690; and John Muschet, minister of Stirling, who died 22d April 1793. The family of Muschet is now represented by John S. Muschet, M.D., of Birkhill, Stirlingshire, grandson of the Rev. John Muschet, minister of Stirling.

William Alexander, second son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, received, on the 27th May 1557, a charter, under the Great Seal, confirming the two following charters, viz.:

"A charter of vendition made by William Murray of Tullybardine to William Alexander and Jonet Merschell his spouse and the longer liver of them in conjunct fee and their heirs, whom failing to the heirs and assignees whomsoever of the said William of the half of the said William Murray's lands of Clow which the foresaid William and Jonet occupied & had in lease of the said William Murray the 23 of May 1542 lying in the barony of Tullybardine and sheriffdom of Perth, to be held of the said William Murray in fee & heritage for ever, paying therefor one penny. Dated at Petuor 23 May 1542. Among the witnesses are Alexander Alexander in Menstrie Schir William Alexschinder &c. And 2d charter and gift made by the said William Murray to the said William Alexander and Jonet Merschell his spouse in liferent, and Adam Alexander eldest son of the said William & his heirs whomsoever in fee of a half of the foresaid lands of Clow lying within the barony of Glencoy and sheriffdom of Perth which formerly belonged to the

said William and Janet in conjunct fee, and were resigned by them in the hands of the said William Murray of Tullybardine as superior for new infeftment thereof. To be held of the said William Murray—paying therefor one penny. Dated at the place of Blairingon 14 August 1553" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi., No. 406).

A descendant of William Alexander of Clow, John Alexander in Coull of Monzie, Perthshire, died in August 1671. In his will, recorded in the Commissariat Register of Dunblane, on the 24th October 1672, he mentions his wife, Jean Gray; and instructs that his estate should be divided among the children of "umquhil Alexander Alexander, his eldest son," and his own sons, Patrick, Alister, James, and Donald. He refers to his son Patrick as resident in Leith. He appoints Alexander Alexander in Curtivacher, as one of the overseers for the execution of his will. His stocking is, in the inventory, valued at £223, 16s. 8d. Scots. John Alexander, merchant in Crieff, a probable descendant of John Alexander of Coull, was served heir to his father, John Alexander, feuar in Crieff, on the 29th November 1780 (General Register of Sasines).

Andrew Alexander, elder son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, succeeded to the patrimonial estate in 1544 (Douglas's Peerage). He died soon after his father, leaving two sons, Alexander and John; he was succeeded by his son Alexander. Alexander Alexander is described as a witness, with his grandfather, Alexander Alexander of Menstry, to

a sasine, dated 19th April 1541, in favour of Archibald, Earl of Argyle, proceeding upon a charter from King James V., wherein the lands of Menstry, Dusletter, Pannols, Little Saline, and others, are erected into a barony, called the barony of Menstry, and wherein he is designed "Alexander Alscinder, junior." He acted as attorney for the Earl of Argyle to another sasine of the barony of Menstry, dated 31st October 1542, with his brother John (Sasines in possession of Duke of Argyle).

John, second son of Andrew Alexander of Menstry, is named in the Earl of Argyle's sasine of April 1541, and in a sasine of Colin, Earl of Argyle, in October 1572 (Douglas's Peerage).

In an agreement, dated 22d December 1547, between John, Bishop of Dunkeld, and Donald, Abbot of Cowper, one of the cautioners for the abbot is "Alexander Alschinder of Menstrie" (Acta Dom. Con., vol. xxvi., fol. 32).

Alexander Alexander of Menstry died between the 14th February 1564 and 6th January 1565. His will not having been produced, his representatives and executors were summoned before the Commissary Court at Edinburgh to answer for neglect. The record of that Court contains the following narrative:

"At Edinburgh the sext day of Junij 1564. The quhilk day anent the edict rasit at the instance of oure souerane ladeis procuratour fischals aganis the executouris and intromettouris with

the gudis and geir of vmquhile Alexander Alschonder in Menstrie Elizabeth Forbes his spous Margaret Crumby spous to Dauid Balfoure of the povis John Hendirsoun in the Myddiltoun of Athra Cristie M^c^Calpy in Pendreith Walter Robe thair Robert Row zounger in Athra Cuthbert Gibsoun sone to vmquhile Ar^d^ Gibsoun Jonet Erskin spous to vmquhile Alexander Bruce of the hauch of Arth maister Thomas Bruce of Ledbertschelis maister Alexander Levingstoun of Donipace and Patrik Thomsoun in romannois summonand thame to compeir befoir the saidis commissaris at ane certane day and all vtheris havand interes to heir and se executouris datiuis be gevin and confirmit in and to and sindrie sowmes of money gudis geir and actionis quhatsumeuir quhilkis pertenit to the saidis vmquhile personis the tyme of thair deceis or ellis to schaw ane ressonable caus quhy &c, as at mair lenth is contenit in the edict rasit thairupon Maister Henrie Kinros procuratoure fischale to our souerane lady being personally present and the executoris intromittors and uther intromittors fornamed being lawfullie summoned to this day to the effect above written.

"Comperit: William Alschinder son lawful to the said umquhil Alexander and allegit that he befoir his deceis maid testament and constitut him his executour tharein and that tharfoir no datives sud be given and producit the said umquhile Alexander's testament of the dead 14th day of Februar 1564—the said Maister Henrie protested *quoad omissa et male appreciata* contenit thairin" (Edinburgh Commissariat Decreets).

Alexander Alexander of Menstry was, by his wife, Elizabeth Forbes, father of three sons, William, James, and John, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Marion, and Janet. Elizabeth Alexander, the eldest daughter, married John Leishman, merchant-burgess of Stirling. She is mentioned in the will of her nephew, Alexander Alexander of Menstry, as, with her two brothers James and John, an executor on his estate.

Her husband died some time previous to the 11th July 1590, when she is described in the Protocol Book of John Muschet, notary-public in Stirling, as relict of the late John Leishman, burgess of the burgh. The instrument in which she is so described grants her infeftment in a portion of land within the burgh, and near the Queenshaugh, which belonged to the late Duncan Forrester of Arngibbon. Among the witnesses are her nephews, Archibald and Andrew Alschunder, burgesses of Stirling (Protocol Book of John Muschet in the General Register House). Elizabeth Alexander or Leishman died in February 1607. Her will, dated at Stirling on the 5th February 1607, appoints as her executors Janet Leishman, her daughter, and Bessie Forrester, wife of John Forrester, Dunoon. She bequeaths 400 merks to Andrew Alexander, son of her brother James, and 100 merks to the "puir" of Stirling. Her inventory was "given up by herself in presence of James Alexander, sumtyme tutor of Menstrie, her brother; John Stirling, brother to Henry Stirling of Ardoch; and Andrew Alexander, her brother's son." Among her debtors are the Laird of Airth, the Laird of Polmaise, the Laird of Cromlix, the Laird of Elphington, the Laird of Clackmannan, the Lord of Dirleton, and umquhil John Hog, servitor to my Lord of Mar (Edinburgh Commissariat Record).

Marion, second daughter of Alexander Alexander, married, on the 10th August 1589, Duncan Paterson,

maltman and burgess of Stirling (Kirk Session Records of Stirling). In October 1592 Duncan Paterson was elected Dean of Guild of Stirling, an office then of higher status than that of chief magistrate (Records of Stirling Guildry).

Janet, third daughter of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, married David Forrester in Logie, one of several brothers whose names are associated with the House of Menstry. In January 1590, David Forrester in Logie, and Janet Alshinder, his spouse, had a daughter baptized, called Agnes, the witnesses being John Forrester, son to Alexander Forrester of Garden, Archibald Alexander, merchant, and John Paterson, merchant (Kirk Session Records of Stirling).

John, third son of Alexander Alexander, was portioner of Pitgogar, parish of Muckhart, Perthshire. In the will of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, his nephew (see *postea*), he was nominated one of his executors, and appointed sole administrator of his gudes and geir (Edin. Com. Reg., 5th February 1580). He died in November 1595. In his will he mentions his wife, Margaret Dempsterton, and his sons, William and Robert, all of whom are named as his executors. He mentions his servant, David Alexander. In his "Inventory," the Earl of Argyle is named as "master of the grund," and as receiving for "the farme of Pitgover aucht bollis ane furlot beir, and twa bollis ane peck meill." The balance of his

"free gear" is stated at £1887, 13s. 8d. Scots (Edin. Com. Reg., 25th February 1596).

In a charter of apprising of the lands of Sauchie, Clackmannanshire, and others, by Sir William Alexander of Menstry, dated 25th May 1609, Gavin Alexander of Pitgover is named on the inquest of apprising (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. i., No. 185, fol. 134).

Janet Alexander, a daughter of Gavin Alexander, and wife of —— Paton, died at Cowdoun, in the parish of Muckhart, Perthshire, in July 1643. In her will, recorded in the Commissariat Register of Stirlingshire, she names as her executors her son, Edward Paton, and her son-in-law, James Dempsterton. The Marquis of Argyle is mentioned as owner of the farm; and John Alexander of Pitgogar, who subscribes the will as a witness, is named as a debtor. James Alexander in Linbank is also a debtor. The personal estate of the deceased is valued at £1637, 6s. 8d. Scots.

In 1719 William Hutton and Catherine Alexander in Easter Pitgogar had a daughter, Margaret, baptized (Muckhart Baptismal Register).

A descendant of the family of Pitgogar, Adam Alexander in Easter Balendine, parish of Muckhart, died in January 1625. In his will his farm is described as rented from the Earl of Argyle. His wife, Agnes Murray, and his three children, William, Adam, and Margaret, are named as his executors. His personal estate is valued at £400 Scots (Stirling

Com. Reg., November 1625). In the Baptismal Register of Muckhart, Thomas Alexander of Balendine is mentioned as having three daughters baptized, viz., Janet, in January 1730; Katherine, in September 1734; and Isobel, in April 1737. In the same Register are named James Alexander of Ridderie, who had a son, Thomas, baptized 31st March 1706; James Alexander in Blairhill, who had a son, David, baptized 10th November 1706; Andrew Alexander in Blairhill, who had a son, Gavin, baptized 21st September 1707; James Alexander in Middleton, who had a son, John, baptized 13th June 1708; and Robert Alexander in Over Blairhill, who had a son, James, baptized 6th June 1732. Their descendants cannot be traced.

A descendant of the House of Pitgogar, Alexander Alexander, was, on the 17th March 1647, served heir to Susan Alexander, wife of James Paton, burgess in Perth, daughter of his father's brother (Gen. Retours, xix. 32).

James, second son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, received, on the 7th October 1582, from John, Earl of Mar, a charter of an annual rent of 100 merks Scots, "furth of the lands of Langcarse, in the barony of Alloway, and shire of Clackmannan." This charter was confirmed under the Great Seal on the 30th May 1584 (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxv., No. 929). In the charter of confirmation he is styled "James Alschunder in Menstrie."

On the 9th November 1586, he is in another instrument described as a merchant-burgess of Stirling (Register of Deeds, vol. xxi., 201*b*). In his will, dated 5th February 1580, his nephew, Alexander Alexander of Menstry, entrusted his children to his care, and he was thereafter generally described as "tutor of Menstry."

Against James Alexander, "burges of Striveling," an action was brought, before the Lords of Council and Session, by Ninian Lowis, merchant-burgess of Edinburgh, and Elizabeth Thomson, his spouse, on the plea that he had been cautioner for Walter Innes of Innerbrakie for payment of fifteen bolls of bear, "as for the half fermes of the tua pairt landis of Ballingall, in the parish of Tain, and sheriffdom of Inverness," which cautionary he had refused to fulfil. On the 10th August 1587, the Lords decreed the obligation to be registered (Register of Deeds, vol. xxv., fol. 201).

In the warrant of the marriage of his niece, Christian Alexander, to Walter Neische, in September 1592, James Alexander is described as giving consent as "her speciall friend" (Kirk Session Records of Stirling).

William Alexander, eldest son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, was father of three sons, Alexander, Archibald, and Andrew, and of two daughters, Janet and Elizabeth.

Janet, elder daughter of William Alexander of

Menstry, married John Burne. On the 15th June 1587, John Burne and his wife, Janet Alexander, had a daughter baptized named Elizabeth, the witnesses being "James Alexander, tutor of Menstrie," and Archibald Alexander (Stirling Baptismal Register).

Elizabeth, younger daughter of William Alexander of Menstry, married Alexander Barclay, notary-public in Stirling; she died in March 1622. Their only son, William Barclay, was, by royal warrant, dated at Whitehall, 18th January 1634, constituted "receiver of duties on exports" (Sir William Alexander's Register of Letters).

The inventory of the effects of Mrs Elizabeth Barclay or Alexander was given up by her husband on behalf of William Barclay, "her only bairn;" he "granted him to have in gudes and geirs, and by the executors of umquhil Robert Graham of Gartmore, the sum of 400 merks of annual rent" (Com. Reg. of Stirling, 24th April 1623).

William Barclay became town-clerk of Stirling; he died prior to the 22d January 1676, when Alexander Barclay, his eldest lawful son, was admitted a burgess (Town Council Records).

Archibald, second son of William Alexander of Menstry, was a merchant in Stirling. He married, in 1589, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Alexander, burgess of Stirling. The following entry in the kirk session records of Stirling respecting his contract of marriage, is curious:

"At Sterling ye vii day of Junij 1589 in prs of me James Duncanson, Reider in Sterling. The qlk day compeirit personallie Archibauld Alexander broy [brother] to umqu^{ll} Alexander Alshunder of Menstrie on ye ane part and Elizabeth Alexander dochter to Robert Alexander, Burges of Sterling on ye uthyr part, quha bayth in ane voyce granted mutuall promeis of marriage is maid be yaim ilk ane to uthyr and promisis to compleit ye saim God willing betwixt and ye first day of August next to cum undir ye paine conteinit in ye Acts of ye Generall Assemblie and therfor desyrit ye said promeis to be law^{ly} proclaimit in ye paroche kirk according to ye order, qlk I ye said Reider promisit to do, and in ye name of ye kirk admonischet bayth ye said parties to abstein fra carnall daill^{s}, qlk untill ye completing of ye said marriage undir ye pain conteinit in ye Act of Parliament made anent fornicatoris. And that they and their companies abstein fra all publict dansein and playein in ye gaitts of ye burgh on ye day of y^{r} marriage undir ye paine of 10 lib money. And for sure keiping of ye promeis for bayth ye said parties and y^{r} companeis, Archibauld Allan consentit to be y^{r} cautioner and securitie. In witness hereof baith ye said parties and cautionaris hes subscryvit ye presentis with their handis as followes, day, year, and place aforesaid—Archibald Allan. Archibald Alschunder, w^{t} my own hand. I Elizabeth Alexander w^{t} my hand at ye place of ye underwritten. Sic sub: Jacobus Duncanson, Not^{rus} Pub^{cus} manu propria, J. Duncanson."

At the period of his marriage, and subsequently, Archibald Alexander was connected both with the burghs of Stirling and Dunfermline. As witness to a baptism, which took place at Stirling in January 1590, he is described as a merchant in that burgh (Kirk Session Records); and on the 27th December 1591, he is styled "one of the bailies of Dunfermline" (Stirling Burgh Register of Sasines). He was placed on the Council of the Dean of Guild of Stirling in October

1592, an appointment renewed in several successive years. In October 1593 he is described as one of the bailies of the burgh (Stirling Guildry Records). In 1599 he was elected Dean of Guild. He was, with another, sent as one of the burgh commissioners to Parliament in 1600. In a minute of the town council, dated 26th June 1601, he is appointed commissioner to the "Conventioune of Burrowis to be halden at Sanct Androis." His name appears on the roll of the Convention, which was held at St Andrews on the 30th June of the same year (Records of Convention). On the 31st August he was returned to the "Conventioune of the Nobilitie and Estaittis of this Realme, to be held at Perth on the 10th September." In 1604 the magistrates and council ordained that he should be refunded in the "soume of six score pund borrowed by them." He was returned to the Convention of Estates in May 1605, and in August of the same year, and again in 1606, was sent as commissioner to the Convention of Burghs (Town Council Records). In 1605 he again appears on the Council of the Dean of Guild (Guildry Records).

Archibald Alexander died on the 13th September 1621. His will, dated 13th April 1621, was confirmed by the commissary of Edinburgh. In this document he mentions James Alexander as his "lawful son" (Edin. Commissariat Register).

By his marriage with Elizabeth Alexander, daughter of Robert Alexander, burgess of Stirling, Archibald

Alexander was father of a son, James, and a daughter, Elizabeth. Elizabeth was baptized in March 1590, Christopher Alexander being one of the witnesses (Stirling Baptismal Register).

James Alexander, only son of Archibald Alexander and Elizabeth Alexander, was baptized at Stirling on the 23d December 1591, the witnesses being Anthony Bruce, bailie, Malcolm Wallace, James Alexander in Menstry, John Stirling, and Patrick Kinross (Kirk Session Records of Stirling).

Through the influence of Sir William Alexander of Menstry, his cousin-german, James Alexander obtained in July 1617 a royal letter, conferring upon him and his heirs the penalty inflicted by Parliament on persons who removed wool from sheep by "pulling" instead of "clipping" it. The royal letter is subjoined:

"Ane letter maid to James Alexander, lawful sone to umq[l] Archibald Alexander, burges of Stirling, his airs and assignays and ane or mae of the gift of ye paine and soume of four schillings money of this realme of Scotland incurrit or to be incurrit be ye persone or persones contraveining for every scheip pullit against the intent and meaning of ane act & statute maid be the lordis of his majesties privie counseill of the said kingdome of Scotlande, at his majesties comand and discretioun upon the auchtene day of Marche last bypast whereby it is statute and ordainit that none of our souverane lordis leiges sould presume nor tak upon hand at onie tyme efter the publication thairof to pluck or pull the wool of their scheip, nor to suffer the same to be pluckit or pullit be thair directioune or allowance. Bot that they sould clip the said wool with scheiris as is usit in the civil pairts of the cuntry under the said paine of four

schillings money foresaid to be incurrit be the persone or persones contraveinan for every scheip that sould be pullit against the intent and meaning of ye said act as the samyn in itself at mair length beirs. With full power to the said James Alexander and his foresaids to ask receive, intromitt with and uptak the said paine and soume of 4 schillings money fra the persone or persones contraveining for every scheip alreadie pullit or to be pullit against the intent and meaning of the said act, and to use and dispone thereupon at their pleasure freely, gentlie, weill and in peace, but onie revocation, obstacle, or again calling quhatsomever. At Falkland the 4th day of Julii the zeir of God 1617" (Reg. Secreti Sigilli, lib. lxxxv., p. 339).

On the 9th September 1623, James Alexander was entered a burgess of Stirling "as air of umq[l] Archibald Alexander, his father" (Town Council Records). On the 19th February 1624, he was incorporated as a member of the guildry. In 1628, and in 1630, he was placed on the Dean's Council (Guildry Records). As "James Alexander, merchand," he is named on the roll of the town council on the 23d September 1633; also on the 9th November 1636 (Town Council Records).

On the 1st July 1634, James Alexander, "merchant-burgess of Stirling," granted to Alexander Barclay, "writer-burgess of the said burgh," an obligation for 400 merks (Register of Deeds, vol. 483). On the 30th October of the same year, he granted to Andrew Purves, merchant in Edinburgh, a bond for £600 (Register of Deeds, vol. 483).

Andrew Alexander, third son of William Alexander of Menstry, is, in the Protocol Book of John

Muschet, notary-public in Stirling, described in an instrument conveying property to Mrs John Leishman, as "brother of Archibald Alexander;" he is also so described in a sasine dated 1st April 1606 (Protocol Book in Register House, No. 44, and Stirling Register of Sasines).

In the General Register of Deeds (vol. 374, 16th June 1625) a contract is recorded, in which Sir William Alexander of Menstry consents to infeft certain persons in an annual rent of the lands of Tillicoultry, "with consent of Andro Alexander, his father's brother." The contract is dated at Greenwich and Stirling, 25th June and 15th July 1623.

In 1639 Andrew Alexander is named as subscribing a commission to the dean of guild and the deacon-convener of the trades, to meet at Edinburgh with the commissioners of other burghs (Stirling Burgh Records). On the 23d August 1633, "John Alexander, son to Andrew Alexander, indweller in Stirling," was admitted a burgess of Stirling along with "Charles Alexander, son to the Earl of Stirling" (Burgh Records of Stirling). Among those who, on the 6th December 1664, were placed on "the inquest" for determining the laws as to the price of provisions, is "John Alexander in Powis."

Alexander Alexander, only son of William Alexander of Menstry, succeeded his father in the patrimonial estate. He died on the 10th February 1580. The following is his inventory and will, as proved in

the commissary court of Edinburgh, on the 24th May 1581:

"The testament, testamentar, and inventar of ye gudis geir, soumes of money and debtis pertaineng to umq^{ll} Alex Alschunder of Menstrie, within the sherifdome of Clackmannan, ye tyme of his deceis, quha deceisit upoun ye tent day of Februar, the zeir of God 1580 zeirs faithfully maid and given up be himself upoun the fyft day of Februar the zeir of God foresaid befoir thir witnesses, John Duncanson in Logie, John Drysdale, servitor to the said Alexander, John Stalker in Menstrie, Wm. Alex^{r} thair, Gilbert Custoun thair, Andro Carnes, burges of Striveling, John Laurie of Holtoun and James Oswald notaries publict with utheris divers.

"In the first the said umq^{l} Alex Alschinder of Menstrie had the guidis, geir, soumes of money and dettis of the value and prices after following pertaining to him at the tyme of his deceis foresaid—Item, standand in the barn and barn yard of the Mains of Menstrie of beir seven stackis, estimat in the hail to lxxx bollis beir, price of the boll with ye fodder 3 lib vjs viiid summa 400 merks. Item, mair in ye said barn and barn yard lxxvi bollis aittis, price of ye boll with ye foddir xls, summa £152. Item, of meill in ye girnalles 32 bollis meill price of ye boll 55s, summa £80. Item, of peis 6 bollis, price of ye boll with the foddir £3 6 8 summa £20. Item, thre drawine oxin by th airschip price of ye peis oure heid x merkes—summa £20. Item xvi ky thairof vii forrow ky and ix new calfit ky, price of ye peis oure heid £5 summa £80. Item, mair x queyok and stottis of ane zeir auld, price of the peis oure heid xl shillins summa xx libs. Item, ane bull of twa zeir auld price thairof xl shillins. Item foure auld wark horses and ane meir, price of ye peis oure heid vi pounds summa 25 pounds. Item, 25 wedder shep and 35 youis, price of the peis oure heid 20 shillings summa 80 pounds. Item, mair 20 young sheip of ane zeir auld price oure heid 13/4, summa £13 6 8^{d}. Item, in utensils and domicils, with the abulzements of his body by the airschip estimat to the soum of £26 13 4^{d}, summa of ye Inven-

tar £785 13 4d.—The dettis awand to ye deid. Item, there wes awand to ye said umql Alex Alschinder of Menstrie be William Graham of Gartavestan his brothir in the law th soum of 400 merkis money restand of the soum of eight hundred merkis of tocher contractit to the said umql Alexr with Marion Graham his spouse in the Contract of Marriage for the whilk soume, also the said William Graham is becom actit in the Commissary Bukes of Striveling as the Act made thireupon beirs. Item, awand be John Stalker in Menstrie for his farme of this instant crop in anno aughty zeirs 8 bollis beir price of ye boll 5 merkis —summa 40 merkis. Item, awand be John Mains in Menstrie six bollis beir of this instant crop price of the boll £3 6 8d, summa £20.

" Item, awand be the tenants of the barony of Multer beir to th mylne 5 bollis, price of ye boll £3 8 6d summa £16 13 4d, Summa of the dettis awand to the deid £330 summa of the Inventar with th dettis £1115 13 4d.

" Followis the dettis awand be the deid.

" Item, there was awand be th said umql Alex Alschinder of Menstrie to my Lord of Argyle, Master of ye grund, for his Lordship's fermes of ye grund in anno 1580 24 bollis ferme quheat, price of ye boll £4 summa £96. Item, mair to him 24 bollis ferme beir, price £3 6 8d summa £80. Item, mair to him 24 bollis ferme mele, price of ye boll 50s, summa £60. Item, awand to James Alschunder, father brother to the defunct the soum of 300 merkis now restand awand to his said father's brother of ane greater soume as ane obligation actit in the Bukes of Council beirs. Item, awand to Margaret Alschinder the soum of an hundred merkis money, which should be paid at Whitsunday cum ane zeir as the obligation beirs. Item, to the said Elizabeth Alschinder of lent money the sum of 20 pundis and of uther such compatis as th compt thairof beirs—the soum of £12. Item, restand awand to Alane Cutis his guidschir the soum of 20 merkis money in complete payment of the soume of ane hundred merkis & for ye price of ane horse the soum of £40. Item awand to Andro Carnes four bollis mele of the 74 yeir crop of Menstrie ferme as mele given betwixt Yule and Candle-

mas the said zeir—price of ye boll 50s summa £10. Item to James Macartney the soum of 10 merkis money whilk is assignit to him be my lord of Argyle as pension furth of the myln of Menstrie. Item, awand to my lord Erle of Argyle of silver male of this crop instant 1580 zeirs the soum of £12. Item, awand to the said lord 30 girsed lambis, price of ye peis 10s summa £15. Item, of small dettis and servant fees awand to utheris, in the first to Marjorie Drummond for claith £4. Item, awand to Alexander Swad for aill and furnishing £4 2 4d. Item to John Mains for aill and furnishing £5 4 4. Item to John Henrysone wobster 50s. Item to Andro Alschinder for lambis 42s. Item to Janet Walker for aill £3 9 6d. Item to Gilbert Craigie chapman for small wares 17/4d. Item, to Christian M^cArthur for claith £18. Item, to his servantes for thair fees viz to John Burr 5 merkis. Item to Margaret M^cArthur £4. Item to Hellen Stuart 31s. Item to Henry Butler £3. Item to John Ewing 30 shillings. Item to James Cuthbert alias 'James the Laird' 18/. Item to Thomas Alschinder 22s. Item to Isabel M^cFarlane 20s. Item to the Laird of Polwarth for his teind the soum of 10 merkis. Summa of the dettis awand be the deid £677 17 10d.

"Restis of free geir the dettis deductit £437 15 6d. to be divided in twelve pairts—the deidis part £218 17 9d quhairof the quot is componit for ten merkis.

"Followis the deidis legacie and latter will. Upon the fyft day of Februar 1580 zeirs the q^lk day the said Alex Alschinder of Menstrie being seik in body but haill in mynd be hes latter will makes constitutes nominates and ordainis James Alexander his father's brother and John Alexander of Pitgogar, & Elizabeth Alexander, relict of John Leishman, burges of Striveling his executors; the said John Alexander to be only intromittor with his gudis and geir. And nominates oversman ane nobil lord and his gude lord and maister Colin Erl of Argyl, Lord Campbell & Lorne and Alain Cutis his gudescyr. Atour the said Alexander names and constitutes the said James Alexander his father's brother tutor testamentar, to his barnes to wait thairupon for putting of his roumes and gudes to profit—sustenta-

tion & uphald of the hous to them and puting of thair geir to profit, quhill thair perfyt age that they be able to be put to profit and gif the said James refuses to accept the said office in that cais the said Alexander names and constitutes the said John Alexander of Pitgogar, tutor testamentar to the said barnes —he accepting the said office with the restrictions foresaid, with provision also that the tutor testamentar acceptin the office sal be halden and astrictit to mak just compt and reckonin of his intromission to the remanent executors foresaid, to th weill of the said Alexander's barnes when or where the said tutor shall be requirit. This wes done befoir thir witnesses above written. Sic subscribitur" (Commissariat Record of Edinburgh, vol. ix.).

By his marriage, about the year 1567, with Marion, daughter of Allan Couttie, Alexander Alexander had a son, William, and two daughters, Janet and Christian.

Janet Alexander, elder daughter of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, married Walter Cowan, merchant-burgess of Stirling. On the 8th October 1590, was baptized Andro Allan, son of Walter Cowan and his wife Janet Alexander; another son, named Antonie, was baptized on the 20th September 1591 (Stirling Baptismal Register).

Christian Alexander, younger daughter of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, married, on the 25th September 1592, Walter Neisch of Dubbiehead, Stirling. In the record of the marriage she is described as "dochter to umquhil Alexander Alschunder of Menstrie" (Kirk Session Records of Stirling). In October 1593, Walter Neisch was placed on the Council of the Dean of Guild, on which he appears

for several successive years, and again in 1606 (Guildry Records). On the 10th June 1599, he is described as a bailie of the burgh (Town Council Records). He died in September 1606 of "the contagious sickness of the plague of pest." In his will he is described as "of Wester Dubbettis, bailie burges of Striveling;" he names as his executors "William Alschinder of Menstrie, and Alexander Duncan Paterson, burgess in Stirling, and Elizabeth Alexander, his spouse, the said Elizabeth only intromissatrix, and Lord Murray of Tullibarden oversman." He appoints his "free geir" to be divided among his children. Among the debtors enumerated in his inventory are "Patrick Drummond of Milnab as chamberlain of Stratherne; Abraham Drummond; Sir James Chisholm of Cromlix; Agnes Bruce, relict of John Murray of Mulardoch; Robert Murray of Buchindy; Drummond of Drummond Ernoch; John Stewart of Innergeldy; John Stewart in the Port; Mr William Murray of Oughtertyre; Patrick Murray of Lochland; James Mar, his tenant in Dubbettis; Richard Peat in Polmaise; Andrew Laurie; Sir Robert Melville, when he was treasurer; Lord Elphinstone, for two years' fee and ane half; Adam Oswald, servitor to my Lord of Tullibarden" (Commissariat Register of Stirling). Christian Alexander or Neisch died in 1608. Her will, dated 15th March 1618, names William Alexander of Menstry as one of the cautioners (Com. Reg. of Stirling).

Walter Neisch, son of Walter Neisch of Dubbiehead and his wife Christian Alexander, obtained office as an usher of the Scottish Exchequer. To this office he was appointed by a royal letter, dated Whitehall, 19th February 1632, and addressed to the Earl of Morton, Treasurer; the Earl of Stratherne, President of the Privy Council; and Viscount Stirling, Principal Secretary for Scotland. As installation was delayed, a royal letter was addressed to the Court of Session on the 12th November 1633, and again on the 28th January 1635, peremptorily commanding that his title to the office of usher should be legally confirmed (Register of Letters). Walter Neisch is named in 1640 as sheriff-clerk of Haddingtonshire, an office conferred by his relative, the Earl of Stirling (Reg. Mag. Sig., Paper Register, No. 479).

CHAPTER II.

MEMOIR OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER OF MENSTRY—EARLY HISTORY.

Only son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling, was born in the manor-house of that property. The date of his birth is not certainly known. The opinion commonly received, that he was born in 1580, is untenable; it rests solely on the circumstance that the words "ætatis suæ 57" are inscribed on his engraved portrait by Marshall, included in his "Recreations with the Muses," published in 1637. Now Lord Stirling's portrait was not specially engraved for this work, a few copies only containing it. With the engraver Lord Stirling was certainly acquainted in 1631, when he executed a decoration for his edition of the Psalms. Writing in 1638, Principal Robert Baillie, a relative, describes him as "old" (Baillie's Letters, vol. i., pp. 76, 77). The earliest authentic information concerning him is that, having gained reputation as a scholar, he was selected as travelling companion to Archibald, seventh Earl of Argyle, whom he accompanied to France, Spain, and Italy (Argyle Papers, Edin., 1834, 4to). The seventh Earl of Argyle was

son of Colin, the sixth earl, by his second wife, Anne Keith, relict of the Regent, Earl of Murray. The regent was murdered in 1570, and though the date of his widow's marriage to the Earl of Argyle is unrecorded, we may certainly assume that it did not occur before 1571. Archibald, the seventh earl, commanded the royal troops at the battle of Glenlivet in 1594, which would imply that he had then attained full manhood. If, as is nearly certain, his mother did not become Countess of Argyle before 1571, his birth may be assigned to one or two years after that date. His lordship's guardians were likely to select as his associate in Continental travel, one whose age and experience qualified him as a safe companion. If we assume that he was five years older than the earl, then we are led to conclude that the future poet was born about the year 1567. By the death of his father, an event which took place on the 10th February 1580-1, his upbringing devolved on his paternal granduncle, James Alexander, burgess of Stirling, who was by his father in his will nominated "tutor to his bairnes" (see *supra*). As James Alexander resided in Stirling, it may be assumed that he obtained his early education at the grammar school of that place. The rector of that school, for five years preceding 1576, was Thomas Buchanan, nephew of the more celebrated George, and it is probable that, under the superintendence of this eminent instructor, he was grounded in his knowledge of classical learning. He

afterwards attended the University of Leyden * (Hawthornden MSS., Advocates Library).

In 1597 William Alexander was infeft by Archibald, Earl of Argyle, in "the five pund land" of the Mains of Menstry. The precept of service is dated 18th March 1596-7, and on the seal is written a sasine, dated 4th March 1597-8 (Writs in Menstry Charter-chest). From Archibald, Earl of Argyle, he received subsequently the entire lands and barony of Menstry. In a contract, dated 4th May 1605, he resigned to the Earl of Argyle and to Dame Agnes Douglas, his spouse, the lands of Menstry, wherein he stood infeft, whereupon, in consideration of six thousand merks paid by him, and of services rendered to the earl "in foreign nations and at home," he obtained new infeftment to himself and his heirs-male, in the whole lands and barony of Menstry, extending to a twenty pound land, for the yearly payment of 24 bolls of wheat, 6 score bolls malt, 52 bolls oatmeal, and 23 bolls oats, together with four dozen "sufficient capons, and two dozen hens, and 30 unclipped lambs, with 100 merks of money, and 40 merks at the entry of an heir in place of the duplication of the feu-duty." To this instrument Archibald Alexander, burgess of Stirling, and one of the bailies of that burgh, is a witness (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xliv., 84).

* A careful examination of the Registers of the University of Leyden has been obligingly made by Dr du Rien, Conservator of the Library, who has failed to discover any reference to Alexander as *civis academicus*. He may, however, have attended the university for a time without being enrolled.

A charter, dated at Edinburgh, 24th September 1607, was granted under the Great Seal to William Alexander of Menstry, his heirs and assignees, of the mines, minerals, and metals * of every kind within the lands and barony of Menstry, a tenth part of the proceeds being made payable to the king (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlv., 78).

Introduced at court by the Earl of Argyle, William Alexander became tutor to Prince Henry. Through his poetical talents and general learning, James VI. at once received him into favour, and he continued to retain an ascendancy over the vacillating humours of the pedantic monarch. When James, in 1603, succeeded to the English throne, Alexander followed in his train. He was soon afterwards enrolled as one of the thirty-two gentlemen extraordinary of Prince Henry's private chamber (Dr Birch's Life of Henry, Prince of Wales, p. 347).

Prior to his forming a connection with the English court, Alexander was known as an author. His first poem appeared in a small quarto volume under the title: "The Tragedie of Darivs. By William Alexander of Menstrie. Edinburgh: Printed by Robert Waldegraue, Printer to the King's Maiestie, 1603." In his address to the reader, he writes: "I present to thy favourable viewe and censure the first essay of my rude and unskilfull Muse in a Tragicall poem."

* Copper, silver, and cobalt were formerly worked at the base of the Ochils, in the vicinity of Menstry.

The poem is accompanied by two sonnets in praise of the author, "by Jo: Morray" and "W. Quin," and is dedicated: "To the most excellent, high and mightie Prince James the 6, King of Scots, my dreade Soveraigne:

> "Whose sacred brow a twofolde laurell beares;
> To whom Apollo his owne harpe resignes,
> And everlasting Trophies vertue reares."

Alexander next produced a thin quarto, containing a poem of eighty-four stanzas, entitled "A Paraenesis to the Prince, by William Alexander of Menstrie. London, printed by Richard Field for Edward Blovnt, 1604." In the same year he reprinted his "Darius," somewhat improved in style, along with his tragedy of "Crœsus," under the title of "The Monarchicke Tragedies." In this work the dedication to the king was extended from three to thirteen stanzas. He also included in the volume his "Paraenesis to Prince Henry."

In the "Paraenesis" he addresses the prince not wholly in the language of panegyric, administering wholesome counsels, and setting forth that wicked princes may be dethroned. Another poetical work from his pen appeared in 1604, with the title, "Avrora, containing the first fancies of the author's youth," accompanied by an epistle dedicatory to the Countess of Argyle. In upwards of a hundred sonnets he celebrates the charms of a rural beauty, who rejected his pleadings, and gave her hand to

another. By some this beauty is supposed to be a creation of the poet's fancy, by others she has been held as a real person whom he had unsuccessfully wooed. Others have conjectured, perhaps more correctly, that the lady who became his wife was the real source of his inspiration. The following is a specimen of the poet's manner:

" O ! would to God, a way were found,
That by some secret sympathie unknowne,
My faire my fancie's depth might sound,
And know my state, as clearly as her owne.
Then blest, most blest was I,
No doubt beneathe the skie,
I were the happiest wight;
For if my state they knew,
It ruthless rockes would rue,
And mend me if they might.

" But as the babe before the wand,
Whose faultlesse part, his parents will not trust,
For very feare doth trembling stand,
And quakes to speake, although his cause be just.
So, set before her face,
Though bent to plead for grace
I wot not how I faile;
Yet minding to say much,
That string I never touch,
But stand dismaid, and pale.

. . . . . .

" My bashfulnesse, when she beholds,
Or rather my affection out of bounds,
Although my face, my state unfolds,
And in my hue discovers hidden wounds;
Yet jeasting at my wo,
She doubts if it be so,
As she could not conceive it;
This grieves me most of all,
She triumphs in my fall,
Not seeming to perceive it.

" Then since in vain, I plaints impart,
To scornful eares, in a contemned scroule,

And since my tounge betrays my hart,
And cannot tell the anguish of my soule;
Henceforth I'll hide my losses,
And not recompt the crosses,
That do my joyes orethrow;
At least to senseless things,
Mounts, vales, woods, floods and springs,
I shall them only show."

Sometime prior to 1603, the poet espoused Janet, only daughter of Sir William Erskine, younger brother of the family of Erskine of Balgonie, and commonly styled parson of Campsie, from his holding office as commendator of the bishopric of Glasgow. On the 8th May 1607, Sir William Erskine, described as "parson of Campsie," received a royal warrant for an Exchequer pension of £200 a-year, to be shared with his son-in-law, William Alexander—an annuity of half the amount being made payable to Alexander for life after Erskine's decease* (Docquet Book of Exchequer).

Sir William Erskine purchased from the Earl of Argyle the annual duties payable by his son-in-law for the lands of Menstry. On the 6th June 1609, a royal charter passed under the Great Seal, confirming a charter of alienation and vendition, from the Earl of Argyle, whereby Sir William Erskine obtained the lands and barony of Menstry in liferent, and Sir William Alexander and his spouse, Lady Janet Erskine, the lands in conjunct fee (Reg. Mag. Sig., xlviii. 131).

* Alexander Erskine, son of Sir William Erskine, held some office about the court; and his grandson, Sir James Erskine, obtained a grant of lands in Ulster (Spottiswoode Miscellany, vol. i., p. 104, note).

The conditions of the charter remained unfulfilled; and nineteen years afterwards we find Sir William Alexander consenting to a royal charter, whereby he received the lands and barony of Menstry from the Earl of Argyle, on an annual payment of 80 lib. Scots.

Encouraged by his royal master, Alexander continued to woo the muse. He published, in 1605, "The Alexandræan: a Tragedy," which afterwards suggested to Arthur Johnston, the following epigram:

> "Confer Alexandros; Macedo victricibus armis
> Magnus erat, Scotus carmine Major uter?"

Having composed a fourth tragedy, he, in 1607, issued a quarto volume, entitled "The Monarchicke Tragedies—Crœsus, Darius, The Alexandræan, Iulius Cæsar; newly enlarged, by William Alexander, Gentleman of the Prince's Priuie Chamber. *Carmine dij superi, placantur carmine manes.* London: Printed by Valentine Simmes for Ed. Blovnt, 1607."* To this edition was prefixed the following complimentary sonnet by his friend and associate, Sir Robert Aytoun:

> "Well may the programme of thy tragic stage
> Invite the curious pomp-expecting eyes
> To gaze on present shows of passèd age,
> Which just desert Monarchic dare baptize.
> Crowns thrown from thrones to tombs, detombed arise,
> To match thy muse with a Monarchic theme;

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* Of this work, a third edition was, in 1616, issued in duodecimo, from the press of William Stansby.

That whilst her sacred soaring cleaves the skies,
A vulgar subject may not wrong the same.
And what gives most of lustre to thy fame—
The worthiest monarch that the sun can see,
Doth grace thy labours with his glorious name,
And deigns protector of thy birth to be.
Thus all Monarchic: patron, subject, style,
Make thee the Monarch-Tragic of this isle."

In 1608 William Alexander and his relative, Walter Alexander, of the prince's household, were authorised to receive and uplift all arrears of taxes due to the Crown, from the first year of the reign of Edward VI. to the thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the arrears amounting to £12,000, of which they were to receive a commission of one-half. The patent is subjoined:

"James, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, Fraunce, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To our Treasurer, Chancellor, and Treasurer Chamberlain, and Barons of our Exchequer, now being and that hereafter for the time shalbe, and to all other our officers or ministers to whom it shall or may appertain, greeting. Whereas we have been informed by our welbeloved subjects William Alexander, one of the gent. of the Privy Chamber to our Right Welbeloved sonne Henry, and Walter Alexander, one the gent. Ushers to our said sonne, that divers debts of divers kinds and of great value did grow due to the Crown of England in the thirtieth year of the raigne of our late Sister, the late Queene Elizabeth, and at divers times before upward to the first year of the raigne of King Edward the Sixt inclusively, which by the neglect of Sheriffs and other officers have not been levied nor paid, but are yet due to us—manie of which debts (at the first good and sperate) bee now in process of time become either verie doubtfull and more desperate, and almost all of them, by reason that the debtors bee dead or deceased, and the estates heretofore subject and lyable to the

payment of the same be now either consumed, or disposed, or aliened into so manie hands that it shall be verie difficult or chargeable at this daie to levage the same. And whereas the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander have made offer unto us that they, and such as they shall appoint and substitute (with the assistance of our Court & Officers), will doe their best endeavours to earn a great part of the debt to be levied and brought into the receipt of our Exchequer at Westminster, within the space of two years now next ensuing. In consideration thereof, and the better to encourage the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander to perform their said offer, Wee doe hereby for us, our heirs and successors, constitute and appoint the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander by themselves, their deputies and substitutes, during the space of two years now next ensuing, to discover and receive for us and in our name such and so manie of the said debts which did grow due to the said Crown in the thirtieth year of the raigne of our late Sister, or at any time before upward till the first year of the raigne of King Edward the sixt inclusively, and are not yet levied nor paid, as shall amount to the sume of twelve thousand pounds of lawfull money of England. And for and towards the recompence of the great charge, travallis, and expensis of the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, their executors and assignes, deputies and substitutes, in the accomplishment of the premises, Wee of our especial grace, certain knowledge and meere motion, have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and succesors, doe give and grant, unto the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, their executors and assignes, one full moiety and half part of all such of the said debts which did grow due to the said Crown within the times aforesaid, as by the labour, meanes, industry, or endeavours of them, the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, or either of them or of their executors or assignes, or of their deputies or substitutes, or of any of them, shall bee to the use of Us, our heirs and successors, within the said space of two years, or paid unto our said receipt, or otherwaies to the use of Us, our heirs and successors, and shall be estolled by the order

of our said Court of Exchequer—the said moiety not exceeding in the whole the sume of six thousand pounds of lawfull money of England. And our will and pleasure is, and by these presents wee doe for us, our heirs and successors, will and command you and every one of you to whom the same shall or may appertain from time to time, during the time aforesaid, to grant and cause to be made forth of our said Court of Exchequer such and so manie commissions, writs, and other precepts as may be thought requisite and required by the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, their executors or assigns, or their or anie of their deputies or substitutes, or any of them, for the better finding out, revealing, levying, and receiving of anie of the said debts due to us, and for the seizing and extending of the lands or goods of anie person or persons lyable to the payment of any such debts without any fees or allowances (more than the usual and accustomed) to be paid or allowed for the same. And our further will and pleasure is, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, Wee doe further will and command you and everie one of you to whom the same shall or maie appertaine, that hereafter from time to time, when and as often as any summe or summes of monie shall be paid unto the receipt of the said Exchequer, for or by reason of anie of the said debts, recovered by the labour, meanes, or industry of the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, their executors, administrators, or assignes, their or anie of their deputies or substitutes, or anie of them, ye doe from time to time deliver and paie or cause to bee delivered and paid unto the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, their Executors, Administrators, and Assignes, their or anie of their deputies or substitutes, the moitie and one half of all and everie such summe or summes of money so paid into the said receipt (the same moietie not exceeding in the whole the summe of Six Thousand pounds of lawfull money of England as aforesaid), as of our free guifte and reward without or charge, to bee upon them or anie attempt to be yielded by them or anie of them for the same or any parte thereof. And these our Letters shalbe y^r sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalf, And for the better performance of the

said service, we doe by these presents authorize the said William Alexander and Walter Alexander, by themselves, their deputies, substitutes, and assignes, and everie of them, at all times hereafter, from the daie of the date hereof for and during the space of the said two years from thence next ensuing, freelie to search now and peruse all accompts, specialties, rolls, records, or anie other evidences or writings wheresoever remayning, either in the custodie of our said officers or ministers in our said Exchequer, or in anie other our offices, place or places what or wheresoever within our realme of England, or dominion of Wales, touching the above mentioned premises or the manifestation or explanation of the same, or anything hereto belonging, and to take copies of the same, or of so much thereof as they or anie of them shall think needfull under the hand or hands of such officer, or officers, in whose custody they or anie of them shall be found, without resistance, deniall, or delay of anie such officer or officers, their deputie or deputies, and without paying any fees or money for the said searches, or any more for the said copies, from time to time to bee made, or anie of them, oftener than in such cases is used and accustomed to bee paid for such copies. Given under our Privie Sealle, at our Palace of Westminster, the thirteenth daie of January, in the fifth yeare of our raigne of England, Fraunce, and Ireland, and of Scotland the one and fortieth."

What benefits arose from a grant, so formally conveyed, is unrecorded; it is extremely improbable that any substantial emolument accrued.

On the 25th May 1609, Sir William Alexander, described as "knight," received a charter of apprising against Sir James Schaw of Sauchie, Knight, for nonpayment of 17,500 merks, "according to a contract between Sir James Schaw of Sauchie on the one part, and Master Joseph Halden of Myreton and Sir William Alexander of Menstry on the other." The lands apprised comprehended the barony of

Sauchie, and Wester Tillicoultry, in Clackmannanshire, the lands of Gartinkeiris, Fifeshire, and the lands of Cowden, Caviltoun, and Burnthill, in the county of Kinross (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. i., 185, fol. 134). The record of this transaction shows that Alexander had attained his knighthood in 1609, or at an earlier date.

With his poetical contemporaries, Sir William Alexander had already attained considerable intimacy. To the "Heroicall Epistles" of Michael Drayton, published in 1611, he prefixed the following sonnet:

"To M. Michaell Drayton.

"Now I perceiue *Pithagoras* diuinde
When he that mocked *Maxim* did maintaine
That spirits once spoilde, reuested were againe,
Though changed in shape, remaining one in mind;
These loue sicke princes passionate estates;
Who feeling reades, he cannot but allow,
That *Ouid's* soule reuiues in *Drayton* now;
Still learned in loue, still rich in rare conceits,
This pregnant spirit affecting further skill,
Oft altring forme, from vulgar wits retirde
In diuers ideoms mightely admirde,
Did prosecute that sacred study still,
While to a full perfection now attainde
He sings so sweetly that himselfe is stainde."

The death of Prince Henry, at the age of eighteen, on the 6th November 1612, plunged the nation into grief, and everywhere evoked the tragic muse. Among the conspicuous elegiasts was Sir William Alexander, whose "Elegie," extending to four quarto leaves, was published at Edinburgh, by Andro Hart, in his shop "on the north side of the High Street, a

little beneath the Crosse,"* and which, it is curious to find, was long afterwards, in a renovated form, the book-shop of Mr Archibald Constable (Masson's Drummond of Hawthornden, p. 37).

The versification of the "Elegie on the Death of Prince Henrie," was in Sir William Alexander's best manner; and, in token of appreciation, the king appointed him to the same position in the household of Prince Charles, which he had occupied in that of the deceased prince. In 1613 the king conjoined him in a grant, which held promise of emolument. In 1526 a company of German miners obtained from James V. a grant for forty-three years, of the gold and silver mines of Scotland. What measure of success attended the operations of this company does not clearly appear, but the results had not been quite fruitless, for, in 1593, Thomas Foulis, goldsmith in Edinburgh, accepted in payment of the sum of £14,594 Scots, which he had advanced in money and jewels to James VI. and his queen, a grant of the gold, silver, lead, and other mines in Crawfurd Muir. A silver mine at Hilderston, in the neighbourhood of Linlithgow, was discovered in the year 1607, and in the following year Sir Bevis Bulmer† was, by royal

* A second edition of the "Elegie" appeared in 1613. The only copies known to exist are contained in the University and Advocates Libraries, Edinburgh.

† Among the many projects of James VI. for procuring money was one with which this adventurous engineer was associated. He had been employed by Queen Elizabeth as an explorer of mines, and James, shortly after his accession to the English throne, proposed to him the formation of a company for searching the several mines. This company was to consist of twenty-four persons, willing

patent, appointed surveyor, with authority to work the mine on behalf of the Crown. In 1613 the king granted the mine at Hilderston to Sir William Alexander, Thomas Foulis, and Paulo Pinto, a Portuguese, on their paying a royalty of a tenth portion of the refined ore (Acta Sec. Con., 17th March 1613).

The mines of Crawfurd Muir proved ultimately unproductive, involving the industrious goldsmith who worked them in serious loss, while the silver yielded at Hilderston was attended with such heavy cost in the process of refining it, that the mine was speedily abandoned (Proceedings of Scot. Soc. of Antiqs., vol. x., p. 236).

When Sir William Alexander became Scottish Secretary of State, he sought to compensate himself and the heirs of Thomas Foulis for those untoward speculations. John Foulis, a relative of the deceased Edinburgh goldsmith, was, in November 1626, appointed collector of wine duties at the several Scottish ports; while George Foulis, Master of the Coinage, another kinsman of Thomas Foulis, was, in 1630, recommended to the favour of the Commissioners of Exchequer (Register of Letters).

In 1613 Sir William Alexander published a completion of the third part of Sir Philip Sidney's

to disburse £300 each, and these were to be severally knighted, provided they possessed a revenue of £500 per annum. Each was to be called a Knight of the Gold Mines or a Golden Knight. Only two knights were created—Sir Bevis Bulmer himself and Sir John Cleypoole—when the Earl of Salisbury induced the king to abandon the project (Atkinson's Discoverie and Historie of the Gold Mynes, written in 1619: Edin. 1825).

romance of "Arcadia," which with the initials W. A. will be found in the fourth and subsequent editions of that work. In the same year he commenced a correspondence with William Drummond of Hawthornden, to whom he was attracted by his "Teares on the Death of Moeliades," an elegy on the death of Prince Henry, which Drummond had composed in his best manner. In 1614 Alexander was visited at Menstry by the bard of Hawthornden, who has, in a letter to one of his correspondents, presented the following narrative of his reception:

"As to my long stay in these parts, ye sal rather impute it to so sociable a companie from whom I am even loth to depart, then to a wilful neglect of promiset coming to yow. Fortune this last day was so favourable, as be plaine blindnesse to acquent me with that most excellent spirit, and rarest gem of o^r North, S. V. A. [Sir William Alexander]; for coming neare his house, I had almost beene a Christiane father to one of his childring. He acceptet me so kindlie, and made me so good entertainement (which, whatsomever, with him I culd not have thocht but good), that I can not well schow. Tables removed, efter Homer's fassion well satiat, he honord me so much as to schow me his bookes and papers. This much I wil say, and perchance not with out raison dar say, if the heauens prolong his dayes to end his Day, he hath done more in One Day, then Tasso did al his lyff, and Bartas in his Two Weekes: thocht both the one and the other be most praise worthie. I estimed of him befor I was acquent with him, because of his Workes; but I protest hencefoorth, I will estime of his Workes, because of his awne good courtes meeke disposition. He entreatet me to haue made longer stay; and, beleave me, I was as sorrie to depart as a new enamouret lover wald be from his mistress."

Alexander was now engaged in composing his

longest and most ambitious poem. He published the first part of it in 1614, preceded by a commendatory sonnet from his friend of Hawthornden. The poem is thus entitled:

"Doomes-day; or, The Great Day of the Lord's Ivdgement, by S^r William Alexander, Knight. Printed by Andro Hart, and are to be solde at his shop on the north side of the High street, a little beneath the Crosse. Anno Dom. 1614." 4to.

In its original form, the poem embraced four books or "hours;" these were, in 1637, extended to twelve, embracing more than 11,000 verses. The poem epitomises the history of the ancient world, and indulges in many lofty flights and daring speculations; it is believed that it suggested to Milton the idea of his poem of "Paradise Lost." James VI. was captivated by it; on its merits, he styled the author his "philosophical poet." He was, however, not unconscious that the poet exhibited a certain artificiality of manner, and was led, at his expense, to compose the following sonnet:

"THE COMPLAINTE OF THE MUSES TO ALEXANDER VPON HIM SELFE, FOR HIS INGRATITUDE TOWARDES THEM, BY HURTING THEM WITH HIS HARD HAMMERED WORDES, FITTER TO BE VSED VPON HIS MINERALLES.*

"O holde your hande, holde, mercie, mercie, spare
Those sacred nine that nurst you manie a yeare;
Full ofte, alace, with comforte and with care,
Wee bath'd yow in Castalia's founteyns cleare,
Then on our winges aloft wee did yow beare,
And set yow on our statelie forked hille,
When yow our heavenlie harmonies did heare,
The rockes resounding with their echos stille.

* Sir James Balfour's MS. Collections in the Advocates Library. The words of the sonnet printed in italics are corrections in the king's own handwriting.

Although your neighbours have conspir'd to kill
That art that did the laurell crowne obteyne,
Who borrowing from the Raven theyr ragged quille,
Bewray their hard, harsh, trotting, tumbling veyne.
Such hammering harde, *youre* mettles *harde* require,
Our songes are fill'd with *smooth o'erflowing* fire."

In 1614 the king nominated Sir William Alexander to the office of Master of Requests, a capacity in which he proved serviceable by repressing the demands on the royal bounty of his unprosperous countrymen. At his recommendation, a royal edict appeared in April 1619, in which the king "discharges all manner of persons from resorting out of Scotland to this our kingdome, unlesse it be gentlemen of good qualitie, merchands for traffiques, or such as shall have a generall license from our Counselle of that kingdome, with expresse prohibitioun to all masters of shippes that they transport no such persones." It is added in the edict that "Sir William Alexander, Master of Requests, has received a commission to apprehend and send home, or to punish, all vagrant persones who come to England to cause trouble or bring discredit on their country" (Register of Letters).

With the poet of Hawthornden Sir William Alexander continued a friendly correspondence. On the 4th February 1616-7 he despatched to Drummond the following letter:

"TO MY VERY WORTHY FRIEND,
"MR WILLIAM DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN.

"SIR,—I have sent you here a sonnet which the king made

the last week, moved by the roughness of the season, as you may perceive by his allusion to Saturn and Janus meeting. This forced the other from me. The last day being private with his Majesty, after other things, we fortuned to discourse of *English* poetry; and I told one rule that he did like of exceedingly, which was this: *That to make a good sound there must still be first a short syllable and then a long, which is not long positively of itself, but comparatively, when it followeth a shorter; so that one syllable may be long in one place and short in another, according as it is matched; for a syllable seems short when it is, as it were, borne down with a longer.* Though this letter would seem idle to some, yet I know it will prove serious to you; and I seek in this but to get your humour to whom I write. You will find this, by your own observation, better than a man can express it with words, though few or none have ever remarked it. I have presently written a number of serious letters; and last of all, have recreated my mind with this, wherewith I end.—Your brother, W. ALEXANDER.

"NEWMARKET, *the* 4 *of February* 1616."

"SONNET BY KING JAMES VI.

"How cruelly these catives do conspire
What loathsome love breeds such a baleful band
Betwixt the cankred king of *Creta* land,
That melancholy old and angry sire,
And him who wont to quench debate and ire
Amongst the Romans, when his ports were closed;
But now his double face is still disposed,
With Saturn's help, to freeze us at the fire.
The earth, o'ercovered with a sheet of snow,
Refuses food to fowl, to bird and beast;
The chilling cold letts everything to grow,
And surfeits cattell with a starving feast.
Curst be that love, and mought continue short,
That kills all creatures, and doth spoil our sport."

"SIR W. ALEXANDER'S REPLY TO THE KING.

"When Britain's monarch, in true greatness great,
His council's counsel did things past unfold,
He (eminent in knowledge, as in state),
What might occur oraculously told;

And when, far raised from this terrestrial round,
He numbrous notes with measured fury frames;
Each accent weighed, no jarr in sense or sound;
He Phœbus seems, his lines Castalian streams,
This worth (though much we owe) doth more extort;
All honour should, but it constrains to love.
While ravished still above the vulgar sort,
He prince, or poet, more than man doth prove.
But all his due who can afford him then,
A god of poets, and a king of men?

"This day design'd to spoil the world of peace,
And accessory to so foul a crime,
Why should it rest in the records of time,
Since stained by treason, forfeiting the place?
Oh! but those err who would it odious make
This day from danger Britain's monarch saved;
That day when first the mischief was conceived,
Let it accurst, still clad with clouds, look black,
Then happy day to which (by heaven's decree,
A consecrated) festival pomp is due;
Long may thy saint (a living martyr) view
All hearts for love of him to honour thee.
More length we wish, but what thou want'st of light
Shall be by fire extorted from the *night*."

Writing to Michael Drayton in 1618, Drummond has these words: "I am oft with Sir W. and you in my thoughts, and desire nothing more than that by letters we may oft meet and mingle our souls." In a letter, dated 20th December 1618, and addressed to Sir William Alexander himself, the poet of Hawthornden writes, "Never any friendship of mine went so near my thoughts as yours, because I never thought any so worthy. It is all the treasure and conquest, when death shall remove this pageant of the world from me, that I have here to vaunt of; neither would I wish another epitaph and *hic jacet* over my grave, than that you esteemed me worthy of your friend-

ship. There is nothing I long so much for as to see the perfection of your works. May fortune one day be ashamed to see such a spirit so long attend the ungrateful court, that deserves to have the sovereignty of all Parnassus!" (Masson's Memoir of William Drummond, p. 84.)

In 1618 William Lithgow, in his "Pilgrim's Farewell," celebrates the bards of Menstry and Hawthornden in the following couplet:

> "Amongst these long Goodnightes, farewell yee Poets deare;
> Graue Menstrie, true Castalian fire, quick Drummond in his spheare."

In a letter addressed to Drummond, dated 9th November 1619, Drayton writes:

"Little did you think how oft that noble friend of yours, Sir William Alexander (that man of men), and I have remembered you before we trafficked in friendship."

In his metrical epistle "On Poets and Poetry," published in 1619, Drayton commends Alexander and Drummond in these lines:

> "So Scotland sent us hither for our own,
> That man whose name I ever would have known
> To stand by mine, that most ingenious knight
> My Alexander, to whom in his right
> I want extremely. Yet in speaking thus
> I do but show the love that was 'twixt us,
> And not his numbers, which were brave and high;
> So like his mind was his clear poesy,
> And my dear Drummond, to whom much I owe
> For his much love; and proud was I to know
> His poesy. For which two worthy men
> I Menstrie still shall love, and Hawthornden."

To Sir William Alexander, whom he styles "my

worthily beloved," John Davies of Hereford addressed the following epigram:

> " Great Alexander (whose successful Sword
> Made him a god with men) achieved no more
> Then thy as happy *Pen* hath well assur'd
> Vnto thy Name, which Glory doeth decore.
> I know thee not; but I know I should do ill
> Not to take knowledge of what is in Thee,
> When thou hast publisht it with so great skill,
> Which makes Thee ore thy *Monarches* Soueraigne bee:
> For they, beeing happy, prou'd vnhappy Men,
> Whome thou hast made most happy with thy Pen." *

King James had long intended to compose a metrical version of the Psalms, which might supersede that of Sternhold and Hopkins, used in England, and in a modified form by the Scottish Presbyterians. In his "Poetical Exercises at Vacant Hours," published in 1591, he informs the reader, that should his verses be well accepted, he would proceed to publish "such number of the Psalms" as he "had perfited," and would be encouraged "to the ending of the rest." In a General Assembly held at Burntisland in 1601, he set forth the importance of improving the version then in use (Spottiswoode's History, p. 446). In his project the king invited Alexander's assistance, but was, on the whole, disposed to follow his own method. Acknowledging a psalm which had been sent him by Drummond for the royal approval, Alexander writes thus (Drummond's Works, 1711, p. 151):

"BROTHER,—I received your last letter, with the psalm you sent, which I think very well done. I had done the same long

* The Scourge of Folly, by John Davies of Hereford. Lond. 1611-14.

before it came; but he prefers his own to all else, though, perchance, when you see it, you will think it the worst of the three. No man must meddle with that subject, and therefore I advise you to take no more pains therein; but I, as I have ever wished you, would have you to make choice of some new subject worthy of your pains, which I should be glad to see. I love the muses as well as ever I did, but can seldom have the occasion to frequent them. All my works are written over in one book, ready for the press, but I want leisure to print them. So referring all further to our old friend Sir Archibald Acheson,* who is coming home, I continue, Your loving friend,

"W. ALEXANDER.

"LONDON, 18*th April* 1620."

To the subject of Sir William Alexander's connection with King James' version of the Psalms, we shall refer subsequently. Sir William was, in November 1620, informed by the poet of Hawthornden that he suffered from a complaint, not understood by his physicians. He writes:

"SIR,—When yee have vnderstood the cause of my long silence, I hope I shall not onlye obtaine pardon but pittye: as our Petrarch,

'Spero trouar pietà non che perdono.'

These moneths by past (as to some great States) to mee too haue beene fatall: for these eight weekes I haue beene languishing in sicknesse, and that more by the ignorance of physitians (which, being no where good, are heere naught), than any defect of nature: for my disease being a paine of the syde, they can not tell to what to adscriue the cause, nor how to help mee. If

* Sir Archibald Acheson of Gosford, Haddingtonshire, was a cherished friend of Sir William Alexander. They became associated in the office of Secretary of State for Scotland. In 1611 Acheson obtained a large grant of lands in Ireland, and his expected return from that kingdom is referred to in Alexander's letter. From him descend the Earls of Gosford.

it shall happen mee now to dye, yee haue loosed a great admirer of your woorth; and the greatest conquest I have made on earth is, that I am assured yee loue my remembrance."

From the Hawthornden poet, Alexander received the following graceful sonnet, not long afterwards:

"Though I have twice been at the gates of death,
And twice found shut those gates which ever mourn,
This but a lightening is, truce ta'en to breath
For late-born sorrows augur fleet return.
Amidst thy sacred cares and courtly toils,
Alexis, when thou shalt hear wandering Fame
Tell Death hath triumphed o'er my mortal spoils
And that on earth I am but a sad name,
If thou e'er held me dear, by all our love,
By all that bliss, those joys, Heaven here us gave,
I conjure thee, and by the Maids of Jove,
To grave this short remembrance on my grave:
Here Damon lies whose songs did sometime grace
The murmuring Esk; may roses shade the place!"

In the two following letters, Drummond congratulates his correspondent on his recovery from an attack of *tertian ague:*

"To S. W. A[LEXANDER].

"What thankes can I giue to God Almighty for such vnexspected help, which of his infinit goodnesse he hath bestowed on you, when yee fell into such a dangerous ague. Yee may thinke how your letters moued mee, when euen yet at the remembrance of the accident I am in a horror. How miserable had the estate of so many beene, which all liue [love?] your life, for none being so well loued, this griefe had beene vniuersall. But God both hath had pittye on vs, and of all true worth, which had dyed w^{t} you."

"To S. W. A[LEXANDER].

"That yee are releeued of your tertiane ague, *et tibi et mihi gratulor:* yee should not despaire of your fortunes. [Hee] who drew you there and fixed mee here contrarye to our resolutiones,

Hee only from all danger may vindicate our fortunes, and make vs sure. Hee to this time hath brought mee in the world to be without richesse riche, and then most happily did it fall out w^t^ mee, when I had no hope in man left mee; and this came to me because on him, and not on man, my hopes relied. And therefore, that I now liue, that I enjoye a deare idlenesse, sweet solitarinesse, I haue it of him, and not from man. Trust in him: preferre not [to] certainties, vncertaine hopes.

"Conspirauit in dolores nostros hæc æstas, Sola dies poterit tantum linire dolorem,—for we have what to plaine and regrait together, and I what alone I must lament.

"I attend now what that most mercifull God shall determine [to] doe w^t^ mee, who from my infancye, not without wonder, a simple, careless man, from many dangers, wanting all *necessaries*, hath saued and preserved from *pouerty*.* And it is a greater wonder to mee, to find my selfe yet to this day alife, liuing, and that the injuries of this Age haue not overwhelmed mee, [so] that in such small bounds of wealth I haue to furnish all *necessaryes;* than to heare at Court how men of no worth, from the dust, to be raised to the top of the wheele of Fortune, when Shee pleaseth to sport her selfe" (Hawthornden MSS., Advocates Library).

In the autumn of 1619, Sir William Alexander brought to Scotland a budget of letters addressed to Drummond. In the packet was included a letter from Michael Drayton, which Drummond acknowledged in these terms:

"To M. Drayton.

"The Summer might [as well] come without flowers, as S^r^ W[illiam Alexander] without letters. Wonder haue oft been inquisitive of, about your Poemes, wondering they are not come from the press. I long to heare the progresse of your Poemes

* The words in *italics*, and a few similar expressions elsewhere, as to poverty or obligation, are deleted in the scrolls, probably by the poet's son.

printed. There is no verses I delight more to read than yours, 'Shine as the moone among the lesser starres.' If I heere of your byding at London, I will repaire the long silence of tyme past of the last yeere. Old S^{r} W^{m} Esken * chalenged me in your name, of what I was most innocent: for witnesse all that euer loued poesye [all those powers that infuse or loue sweet poesye], that I did not answer your letter, which a Tortoyse might haue brought to Scotland in such a period of tyme. Esteeme me among those that loue you, which can not haue an end, being grounded on your owne worth."

* Sir William Erskine, father-in-law of Sir William Alexander.

CHAPTER III.

MEMOIR OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER OF MENSTRY—ORIGIN AND EARLY HISTORY OF HIS CONNECTION WITH NEW SCOTLAND.

CANADA was explored or discovered by Sebastian Cabot in 1497; a European settlement was made in 1541 at St Croix by Jacques Cartier, a French navigator. Consequent on the loss at sea of M. de Roberval, viceroy of Canada, with a train of adventurers in 1549, the government of France abandoned further attempts at colonisation for nearly half a century. At length in 1598, Henry IV. appointed the Marquis de la Roche lieutenant-general of Canada; but that nobleman having unwisely attempted a settlement on the Isle de Sable, and made an unsuccessful cruise upon the coast, returned home in disgrace. In 1602 the English sought to plant a colony, but the French in 1603 took possession of the occupied territory, under Mons. de Mont, as forming a part of New France. By Henry IV., De Mont was appointed governor of the district, extending from the fortieth to the forty-sixth degrees of north latitude—that is, from Virginia to near the

head of Hudson's Bay, and which was then known as La Cadie. To Poutrincourt, his associate in adventure, De Mont granted that part of the district in which they found the spacious harbour near the Bay of Fundy, then called La baye Francois, and which was now named Port Royal. The grant to Poutrincourt being confirmed by the King of France, a fort was reared, which became the headquarters of the French colonists. In 1613, on the ground of an alleged encroachment on the English limits of Virginia, Captain, afterwards Sir Samuel Argall, seized the fort, and dislodged the French. Of this proceeding, no complaint was made by the government of France, nor at the time did it attract any special notice from the court of England.

On the 3d November 1620, Sir Frederick Gorges, governor of New Plymouth, received from King James the famous patent by which forty English subjects, incorporated as "The Council for planting, ruling, and governing New England," obtained possession of a territory extending from the fortieth to the forty-eighth degree of north latitude, and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. The colonists found on their northern frontier some French colonists who professed the Romish faith, and on their behalf Sir Frederick Gorges entreated the English government to proceed to their dislodgment. On this subject James VI. consulted his "philosophical poet," who considered the opportunity favour-

able for his personal enterprise. In a work issued some time afterwards, Sir William Alexander, referring to his first connection with the scheme, thus wrote: "Being much encouraged hereunto by Sir Ferdinando Gorge and some utheris of the undertakers for New England, I shew them that my countrymen would never adventure in such an enterprise, unless it were as there was a New France, a New Spaine, and a New England, that they might likewise have a New Scotland."

Resolving to attempt a settlement in Canadian territory, Sir William Alexander obtained the royal sanction that his field of operation should be designated New Scotland. The company of New Plymouth having made the necessary surrender, Sir William procured a royal grant of that vast district on the mainland to the east of the river St Croix and south of the St Lawrence, lying between the colonies of New England and Newfoundland. In the following royal letter, dated 5th August 1621, King James communicated his royal purpose to the Scottish Privy Council.

"*August* 5, 1621.

"JAMES R.

"Right trusty and welbeloued Cosens and Counsellours, and right trusty and welbeloued Counsellours, Wee greete you well. Haueing euer beene ready to embrace anie good occasion whereby the honor or proffete of that our Kingdome might be advanced, and considering that no kynd of conquest can be more easie and innocent than that which doth proceede from Plantationes, specially in a countrey commodious for men to live in, yet

remayneing altogither desert, or at least onely inhabited by Infidells, the conversion of whom to the Christian fayth (intended by this meanes) might tend much to the glory of God; since sundry other Kingdomes, as likewyse this our Kingdome of late, vertuously aduentring in this kynd, haue renued their names, imposeing them thus vpon new lands, considering (praysed to God) how populous that our Kingdome is at this present, and what necessity there is of some good meanes wherby ydle people might be employed preventing worse courses, Wee think there are manie that might be spared who may be fitt for such a forraine Plantatioun, being of mynds as resolute and of bodyes as able to overcome the difficulties that such aduenturers must at first encounter with as anie other Nation whatsoeuer, and such an enterprise is the more fitt for that our Kingdome it doth craue the transportation of nothing from thence, but only men, women, cattle, and victualls, and not of money, and maie giue a good returne of other commodityes, affording the meanes of a new trade at this tyme when traffique is so much decayed. For the causes abouespecifeit, Wee haue the more willingly harkened to a motion made vnto vs by o^{r} trusty and wellbeloued Counsellour, Sir William Alexander, Knight, who hath a purpose to procure a forraine Plantation, haueing made choice of landes lying betweene our Colonies of New England and Newfoundland, both the Gouernours whereof haue encouraged him thereunto; therefore that he and such as will vndertake with him by getting of good security maie be the better enabled hereunto, Our pleasure is, that after due consideratione, if you find this course, as Wee haue conceaved it to be, for the good of that our Kingdome, That yow graunt vnto the sayd Sir William, his heires and assignes, or to anie other that will joyne with him in the whole, or in any part thereof, a Signatour vnder our Great Seale of the sayd lands lying betweene New England and Newfoundland, as he shall designe them particularely vnto yow, To be holden of vs from our Kingdome of Scotland as a part thereof, united therwith by anie such tenure, and as freely as yow shall finde vs to haue formerly granted in the like case here, or that yow shall think fitt for the good of the sayd plantation, with as

great priuiledges and fauours for his and their benefite both by sea and land, and with as much power to him and his heires and their deputyes, to inhabite, gouerne, and dispose of the sayd lands, as hath at anie tyme bene graunted by vs heretofore to anie of our subjects whatsoeuer for anie forraine plantatioun, or that hath beene graunted by anie Christian prince of anie other Kingdome for the like cause, in giueing authority, power, benefite, or honor within the bounds to be plaunted to them, or by warranting them to conferre the like vpon anie particular enterpryser there who shall deserue the samen, adding any further conditiones for the furtherance hereof as yow shall think requisite, and that the said Signatour be past and exped with all expedition: And likewise Our pleasure is, that you giue all the lawfull ayde that can be afforded for furthering of this enterpryse, which Wee will esteeme as good seruice done to vs; for doing wherof these presents shall be your warrant. From our Court at Beauer, the 5th of August 1621."

This letter was indorsed:

"To our Right trusty and welbeloued Cozen and Counsellour, the Earle of Dumfermling, oure Chancellour of Scotland; And to our right trusty and welbeloued Counsellours the remanent Earles, Lords, and others of our Privy Councell of our sayd Kingdome."

The Privy Council having acceded to the royal request, a warrant for a charter was granted at Windsor Castle on the 10th September 1621.* On the 29th day of the same month a charter passed under the Great Seal, appointing Sir William Alexander hereditary lieutenant of the new colony. In face of the patent was denoted the importance of the transaction; the initial letter contained portraits of the king and his lieutenant, the former seated on his throne, and in the act of handing the charter to the

* See Appendix No. I.

latter. The border of the instrument was decorated with embellishments, illustrating the customs and productions of the colony. In the opinion of Horace Walpole, the illustrations were executed by Edward Norgate, an accomplished illuminator, who was at this period employed to decorate the initial letters of the patents of the nobility and the commissions of ambassadors.*

Having obtained his patent, Sir William entered into an arrangement with his friend, Sir Robert Gordon of Lochinvar, by means of which the latter obtained possession of the territory at Cape Breton, originally included in the province of New Scotland. To this territory, styled the barony of New Galloway, Sir Robert Gordon and Robert, his second son, obtained a royal charter, dated 8th November 1621.

In March 1622 Sir William Alexander provided a ship at London, which he sent round the coast to Kirkcudbright. There he hoped, through the influence of Sir Robert Gordon, whose lands lay in the district, to recruit a body of emigrants. The inducements held out were inconsiderable. Purchasers of land only were to have any right in the soil. Farmers might obtain leases. The lieutenant-general was, after a specified time, to receive a thirteenth portion of the land revenues. Artisans were to receive free holdings, but during their lives only. None possess-

* Edward Norgate died at the College of Arms on the 23d December 1650 (Horace Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, Lond. 1871, 12mo, p. 121).

ing ordinary comforts at home were likely to incur the risk of migrating to unexplored wastes on inducements so meagre. Only one artisan, a blacksmith, and one educated person, a Presbyterian minister, consented to join the expedition. The other emigrants were agricultural labourers of the lowest grade. There was a further drawback. Provisions had lately increased in price, and the means of procuring them were proportionally diminished. The vessel, however, weighed anchor in the end of June, proceeding first to the Isle of Man. The voyage was resumed early in August, and about the middle of September the emigrants sighted St Peter's Island, to the south of Newfoundland. Sailing westward, they approached the shore of Cape Breton, but were by a storm driven back to Newfoundland, where they sought refuge in the harbour of St John. There they resolved to pass the winter, while the vessel was despatched to Britain for new supplies (Sir William Alexander's Encouragement to Colonies).

These experiences, discouraging as they were, did not depress the ardour of the lieutenant-general. A ship, the "St Luke," was in the end of March despatched from London with additional colonists and needful supplies. By contrary winds the vessel was detained at Plymouth till the 28th of April, and it did not reach St John's harbour till the 5th of June. About eight months had passed since the Scottish emigrants landed at that port. The clergyman and

the mechanic were both dead. The others were scattered—a portion earning a scanty subsistence as fishermen (Encouragement to Colonies).

Dreaming of approaching prosperity, the Lieutenant of New Scotland added to his family estate. He purchased the lands of Tillicoultry, bordering Menstry on the west, borrowing the purchase money from Walter Cowan, an opulent burgess of Stirling, who on the 25th June 1623 received from him, "with consent of Andro Alexander, his father's brother," an acknowledgment of the loan; Cowan was also "infeft with Walter his eldest son in an annual rent of 700 merks furth of the lands of Tullicoultrie, under reversion" (Reg. of Deeds, vol. 374).

Meanwhile the voyagers in the "St Luke" were endeavouring to bear up against absolute failure. Ten of their number were selected to proceed to New Scotland, there to fix on a suitable place for planting a colony. On the 23d June these persons sailed from St John, but, impeded by fogs and contrary winds, they did not see land for two weeks; they afterwards sailed along the coast, which they partially surveyed. Reaching Port de Mouton, they, in its vicinity, discovered three harbours, in one of which, four leagues west of Port Mouton, they landed, naming the spot St Luke's Bay. Two leagues further to the west they found another harbour, with a fine river, known as Port Jolly. Having coasted twelve leagues further, they terminated their explorations at

Port Negro. On their return they further examined Port de Mouton, and then hastened to Newfoundland. The "St Luke" shipped a cargo of fish for the home voyage, and finding other vessels, the explorers returned to England (Encouragement to Colonies, and Slafter's American Colonisation, pp. 46, 47).

By these two expeditions, Sir William Alexander, instead of increasing his fortune, sustained serious loss. That loss was estimated at £6000 sterling, and for its re-payment a royal warrant was directed to the Exchequer. Meanwhile Sir William resolved to persevere steadily with his undertaking. In 1624 he issued a small work, dedicated to Prince Charles, entitled "An Encouragement to Colonies," and accompanied with a map of New Scotland. In this publication he traced the history of colonial enterprise from the period of the sons of Noah, through the Phœnicians, Greeks, and Romans, to recent times. The discovery of America, he maintained, was a call of Providence to Britain to extend her boundaries by occupying the new country. He commended Spanish enterprise in effecting transatlantic settlements. He celebrated King James in checking rebellion and restoring tranquillity in Ireland, and expressed a hope that the dignity of his sceptre would be further maintained by the plantation of New Scotland. Colonists would, he remarked, be enabled to carry into unexplored tracts the civilising influences of

British culture, and the elevating doctrines of the Christian faith. In glowing terms he expatiated on the success which had attended the colony of New England and the plantation of Virginia. Depicting the region of New Scotland, Sir William described "the very delecate meadowes" "with roses white and red," and "the very good fat earth" which the voyagers in the "St Luke" had found along the coast. In poetical language he remarked that the territory of which he was lieutenant, invited occupation like the infant earth, its rich grain and fowls, and fishes, all inducing early occupation. Appealing to Scotland, he said that like a bee-hive it yearly sent forth swarms of her people, who heretofore had expended their energies in foreign war. Now Scotsmen were invited to settle in a new country, where the merchant might prosecute successful commerce; the sportsman enjoy abundant recreation, and the Christian have ample scope for missionary enterprise. The lieutenant-general proceeded:

"Where was euer Ambition baited with greater hopes then here, or where euer had Vertue so large a field to reape the fruites of Glory, since any man who doth goe thither of good qualitie, able at first to transport a hundred persons with him furnished with things necessary, shall haue as much Bounds as may serue for a great Man, wherevpon hee may build a Towne of his owne, giuing it what forme or name he will, and being the first Founder of a new estate, which a pleasing industry may quickly bring to a perfection, may leaue a faire inheritance to his posteritie, who shall claime vnto him as the Author of their Nobilitie there, rather then to any of his Ancestours that had

preceded him, though neuer so nobly borne elsewhere. . . . And as no one man could accomplish such a Worke by his own priuate fortunes, so if it shall please his Maiestie (as he hath euer been disposed for the furthering of all good Works more for the benefit of his subjects, then for his owne particular) to giue his helpe accustomed for matters of lesse moment hereunto, making it appeare to be a Worke of his own, that others of his subjects may be induced to cōuerse in such a common cause, no man could haue had my charge that with more affection and sinceritie should have vsed his endeuours for discharging of the same, but I must trust to be supplyed by some publike helps, such as hath beene had in other parts, for the like cause whereunto, as I doubt not but many will be willing out of the noblenesse of their disposition for the aduancing of so worthy a Worke, so I hope will some others, the rather out of their priuate respect to me, who shall continue as I haue heretofore done, both to doe and write in so farre, as so meane an abilitie as mine may reach, what (I conceive) may proue for the credit or benefit of my Nation, to whom I wish all happinesse."

"The Encouragement to Colonies" failed to arouse any colonial ardour, and the English Treasury refused to make compensation for a loss in which they had no concern. To effect his purpose, the Lieutenant of New Scotland fell upon a new method. Since his accession to the English throne, King James had systematically replenished his royal revenues by the sale of titles. In July 1603 a summons was issued at Hampton Court, charging all who owned land to the value of £40 a-year to proceed to the royal presence to receive knighthood, or to compound with the king's commissioners (Rymer's Fœdera, xvi. 529). About the same period, the king proposed to constitute an order of *Golden Knights*,

that is, to bestow knighthood on all who would disburse £300, to be expended by Sir Bevis Bulmer in a search for gold mines (Atkinson's Discoverie of the Gold Mynes). He devised a more advanced scheme in 1611, when, to further the colonisation of Ireland, he created an order of knights baronets. These received their honours on paying into exchequer a sum equal to £1100, while the number of creations was restricted to two hundred; and the candidates were expected to possess a land rental of £1000. Though styled baronets of Ulster, the new hereditary knights were English landowners, and wholly disconnected with the country from which they obtained their titles. Their eldest sons were ordinary knights (Royal Decree respecting Baronets, 28th May 1612).

These precedents, especially the last, suggested to Sir William Alexander a mode by which he might accomplish his undertaking, and relieve his embarrassments. From 1611 to 1622, 205 English landowners had become baronets of Ulster, with a benefit to the Exchequer of £225,000. On terms less costly, Sir William estimated that Scottish landowners, or the younger sons of the nobility, might enrol themselves in a new order—the Baronets of New Scotland. Accordingly, on his recommendation, a royal letter was issued from his Majesty's Court at Roystoun, informing the Privy Council of Scotland that the king had resolved to make the colonisation of New Scotland a work of his own, and in connection

therewith to establish an order of baronets. The Privy Council were invited to assist in carrying out the royal intention, and instructed to offer no opposition to it (Reg. Sec. Con., "Royal Letters").

Under the guidance of Sir William Alexander, the Scottish Privy Council approved the royal order; and in the following letter proceeded to indicate a scheme whereby the royal intentions might be fully accomplished:

"Most Sacred Souerane.

"We haue considerit of your Maiestie's letter concerning the Barronettis, and doe therby persave your Maiestie's great affectioun towards this your ancient Kingdome, and your Maiestie's most judicious consideratioun in makeing choise of so excellent meanes, both noble and fitt for the goode of the same, wherein seing your Maiestie micht haue proceidit without our advyce, and unacquenting vs with your Maiestie's royall resolutioun therein, we are so muche the more boundin to rander vnto your Maiestie our most humble thankes for your gracious respect vnto vs, not onlie in this, but in all vther thinges importeing this estate outher in credite or profit. And we humblie wisse that this honour of Barronet sould be conferrit vpoun none but vpon Knichtis and Gentlemen of chiefe respect for their birth, place, or fortounes, and we haue taken a course by Proclamatioun to mak this your Maiestie's gracious intentione to be publicklie knowen that non heirafter prætending ignorance take occasion inwardlie to compleyne as being neglected, bot may accuse thameselffis for neglecting of so fair an opportunitie. And whereas we are given to vnderstand that the country of New Scotland being dividit in twa Provinces, and eache province in severall Dioceises or Bishoprikis, and eache diocese in thrie counteyis, and eache countey into ten Baroneyis, every baronie being thrie mile long vpon the coast, and ten myle vp into the countrie, dividit into sex parochies, and eache paroche

contening sax thousand aikars of land; and that everie Baronett is to be ane Barone of some one or other of the saidis Barroneis, and is to haif therein ten thowsand aikars of propertie, besidis his sax thowsand aikars belongeing to his bur^t^ (burgh) of baronie, To be holdin free blanshe, and in a free baronie of your Maiestie as the baronies of this Kingdome, ffor the onlie setting furth of sex men towardis your Maiestie's Royall Colonie, armed, apparelld, and victualld for two yeares, And everie Baronet paying Sir William Alexander, Knicht, ane thousand merkis Scottis money only towards his past charges and endevouris: Thairfore our humble desire vnto your Maiestie is, that care be taken by suirtie actit in the bookis of Secreit Counsall, as was in the Plantatioun of Vlster, that the said nomber of men may be dewlie transported thither, with all provisions necessar, and that no Baronet be maid but onlie for that cause, And by some such one particular course onlie as your Maiestie sall appointe, And that Articles of Plantatioun may be set furth for encouraging and induceing all others who hes habilitie and resolutioun to transport themselffis hence for so noble a purpose.

"Last we consave that if some of the Englishe who ar best acquainted with such forrayn enterpreises wald joyne with the saidis Baronetts heir (as it is likelie the lyker conditioun and proportioun of ground wald induce thame to doe), that it wald be ane grite encouragement to the furtherance of that Royall worke quhilk is worth(ie) of your Maiestie's care, And we doubte not sindrie will contribute their help heirvnto. So exspecting your Maiestie's forder directioun, and humblie submitting our opinione to your Maiestie's incomparable iudgement, We humblie tak our leave, prayeing the Almichtie God to blisse your Maiestie with a long and happie Reigne. From Edinburgh, the 23 of November 1624.

"(Sic subscribitur) GEO. HAY. LAUDERDAILL.
MAR. L. ARESKINE.
ST ANDROIS. CARNEGIE.
MORTOUN. B. DUMBLANE.
LINLITHGOW. A. NAPER.
MELROS. S. (W.) OLIPHANT."

On the 30th November 1624 the Scottish Privy Council issued the following proclamation:

"At Edinburgh, the last day of November, The yeir of God 1600 Tuentie-four yearis.—Our Souerane Lord being formarlie gratiouslie pleased to erect the heritable honnour and title of ane Baronet as ane degree, state, and place, nixt and immediatlie following the younger sones of Vicounts and Lordis Baronis of Parliament, as ane new honnour whairwith to rewaird new meritis, Haveing conferrit the same honnour, place, and dignitie upoun sundrie of the Knights and Esquyris of Ingland and Ireland, to thame and thair airis maill for ever, In consideratioun of thair help and assistance toward that happie and successfull plantatioun of Ulster in Ireland, To the grite strenth of that his Maiestie's Kingdome, increasse of his Hienes' revenues, and help to manie of his Majestie's goode subjects. And quhairas our said Soverane Lord being no les hopefull of the plantatioun of New Scotland in the narrest pairt of America alreadie discovered and surveyed be some of the subjects of his Majestie's Kingdome of Scotland, joyning unto New Ingland, quhairin a grite pairt of his Hienes' nobilitie, gentrie, and burrowis of Ingland are particularlie interessed and hes actuallie begun thair severall Plantatiouns thairof; And for that conceaving that manie his Majestie's subjects of this his ancient Kingdome, emulating the vertews and industrious interpryssis of utheris, And being of bodies and constitutions most able and fitt to undergoe the Plantatioun thairof and propagatioun of Christiane religion, will not be deficient in anie thing quhilk may ather advance his Majestie's Royall intentioun towards that Plantatioun, or be beneficiall and honnourable to this his Hienes' ancient Kingdome in generall, or to thameselffis in particular; The samyn being ane fitt, warrandable and convenient means to disburding this his Majestie's said ancient Kingdome of all such younger brether and meane gentlemen quhois moyens ar short of thair birth, worth, or myndis, who otherwayes most be troublesome to the houses and freindis from whence they ar descendit (the common ruynes of most of the ancient families), Or betak

thameselffis to forren warke or baisser chifts, to the discredite of thair ancestouris and cuntrey, And to the grite losse of manie of his Majestie's goode subjects who may be better preservit to his Hienes' use, honnour of thair freindis, and thair awne comfort and subsistence, gif transplantit to the said cuntrey of New Scotland, most worthie and most easie to be plantit with Christiane people, and most habill by the fertilitie and multitude of commodities of sea and land, to furnish all things necessarie to manteine thair estaitis and dignitie as Landslordis thairof, and subjects to his Majestie, to be governed by the Lawis of this his ancient Kingdome of Scotland. And our said Soverane Lord being most willing and desyreous that this his said ancient Kingdome participate of all such otheris honnouris and dignities as ar erected in anie of his Majestie's otheris Kingdomes, To the effect that the Gentrie of this his Hienes' said ancient Kingdome of Scotland may both haif thair dew abrood among the subjects of utheris his Majestie's Kingdomes, and at home among thameselffis, according to thair degree and dignitie. As alsua his Majestie being most graciouslie pleasit to confer the said honnour of heretable Baronet as ane speciall mark of his Heighnes' princelie favour upoun the Knights and Esquyris of principall respect for thair birth, worth, and fortouns, Togidder with large proportionis of Landis within the said cuntrey of New Scotland, who sall be generouslie pleasit to set furth some men in his Hienes' Royall Colonie, nixt going thither for that plantation: Thairfore his Majestie ordaines his Hienes' lettres to be direct, chargeing Herauldis, Pursevantis, and Messengeris of Armes to pas to the Mercat cros of Edinburgh, and vtheris placeis neidfull, and thair, be oppin proclamatioun, to mak publicatioun of the premises, And that it is his Majestie's princelie pleasure and expres resolutioun to mak and creat the nomber of ane hundreth heretable Baronettis of this his Hienes' Kingdome of Scotland be patentes vnder his Majestie's grite seale thairof, Who and thair airis maill sall haif plaice and precedencie nixt and immediatlie after the youngest sones of the Vicountes and Lordis Barronnis of Parliament, and the addition of the word Sir to be prefixed to thair propper name, and the style and title

of Baronett subjoyned to the surname of everie ane of thame, and thair airis maill, Togither with the appellatioun of Ladie, Madame, and Dame to thair Wyffis, in all tyme comeing, with precedencie befoir all otheris knights alsweil of the Bath, as Knights Bachelouris and Bannarettis (except those onlie that beis Knighted be his Majestie, his airis and successouris, in proper persone in ane oppen feild, with banner displayed with new additioun to thair armes and haill vtheris prærogatives formarlie grantit be our said Soverane Lord to the saidis Baronettis of Ingland and Ireland conforme to the printed patent thairof in all poynts). And that no persone or personis whatsumevir sall be created and maid Baronettis, bot onlie such principall Knights and Esquyris as will be generouslie pleasit to be Undertakeris of the said Plantatioun of New Scotland, And for that effect to act thameselfis, or some sufficient cautioneris for thame, in the buikis of Secreit Counsall befoir the first day of Apryll nixt to come in this insuing yeare of God 1625 yearis, To set furth sex sufficient men artificeris or laboureris sufficientlie armeit, apparrelit, and victuallit for tua yeiris, towards his Majestie's Royall Colonie to be established, God willing, thair, for his Hienes' use dureing that space, and that within the space of year and day efter the dait of the said Actis, under the pane of tua thowsand merkis usual money of this realme."

The proclamation proceeded to recapitulate the proposals made in the Privy Council's letter to the king as to the payment to be made by intending undertakers to the lieutenant-general, and invited all who sought to possess lands in New Scotland, along with the title and dignity of baronet, to repair for enrolment, either personally or by agent, to the Lords of the Council (Reg. Sec. Con. Acta; Jan. 1621, Mar. 1625, fol. 218). Though issued by the Scottish Privy Council, the two preceding documents

were composed by the lieutenant-general. Ingenuity seemed to have exhausted itself in depicting the importance of the new colony, and the honours and advantages awaiting those who aided its settlement. At the same time the remuneration of the lieutenant-general was set forth somewhat too prominently. The entire failure of the late expedition also proved a source of discouragement. Thus the months of winter and spring passed on, while the appeal to undertakers made on the 30th November evoked no response.

A collapse of his undertaking would have proved, to Sir William Alexander, disastrous and overwhelming. He therefore renewed his appeal, and on this occasion in the form of a royal mandate. This instrument, dated 23d March 1624-5, informed candidates for baronetcies that they should negotiate either with himself personally, or in his absence, with his friend and deputy, Sir John Scott, Knight. The proposal that each undertaker should hand to the lieutenant-general a thousand merks to meet his past losses was omitted, while the sum of two thousand merks previously mentioned as purchase money, was, it was stated, to be strictly applied to colonial purposes. In evidence of the sincerity of this promise, it was further stipulated that the baronets or undertakers might appoint certain of their number to superintend the application of the funds.

The operations of the lieutenant-general were again

retarded; for, on Sunday the 27th March, just four days after the date of the royal missive appointing him and Sir John Scott to deal with intending undertakers, King James expired at London. Proceedings were suspended in reference to colonial matters till the 28th of May, when three persons, under Sir William Alexander's direction, were appointed undertakers, and created baronets. These were Sir Robert Gordon, Knight, son of Alexander, Earl of Sutherland; William, Earl Marischal; and Alexander Strachan, of Strachan, Kincardineshire. On the following day five others were added to the roll, these being Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenurquhie, Knight, Robert Innes of Innes, Sir John Wemyss of Wemyss, Knight, David Livingstone of Dunipace, and Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie (Reg. Precep. Cart. pro Baronettis Nov. Scotiæ).

According to the new arrangement, the lands included in the baronies of New Scotland were resigned by Sir William Alexander into the hands of the king, who regranted them to the knights baronets. Thus the lands and titles were obtained directly from the sovereign. It was also provided that infeftment in the lands should be expede at Edinburgh Castle (Reg. of Letters).

The patent constituting Sir William Alexander Lieutenant of New Scotland, though approved by the Scottish Privy Council, had not been ratified by Parliament, the Estates not having assembled between

the date of its issue and the close of the late reign. A charter of *novodamus* was now granted to Sir William by Charles I., and which, on the 12th July 1625, passed under the Great Seal; * in it the former charter was recited, with additional clauses respecting the order of baronets,† and a promise made that the former grant would be confirmed by Parliament (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. li., 23). On the 19th day of the same month the king informed the Privy Council that certain baronets of New Scotland had been created, to each of whom he had granted territory in that country, six miles in length by three in breadth. His Majesty further authorised the Council to confer baronetcies on intending undertakers, without subjecting them to the inconvenience of proceeding to London, so that a colony might be despatched to New Scotland in the following spring. The Privy Council were warned to maintain the precedency due to baronets, and to punish those who might attempt to disturb it (Reg. of Letters).

Proceeding on his Majesty's letter, the Privy Council issued, on the 31st August, the following proclamation:

"APUD EDINBURG.,
"*Penultimo die mensis Augusti* 1625.

"Forsameikle as our Souerane Lordis umquhile dearest Father, of blessed memorie, for diverse goode ressonis and consideratione moveing his Majestie, and speciallie for the better encouragement of his Hienis' subjectis of this his ancient King-

* See Appendix No. II. † The order was restricted to one hundred and fifty.

dome of Scotland, towardis the plantatioun of New Scotland in America, being graciouslie pleased to creat the heretable dignitie and title of Baronet, as a degree of honour, within the said Kingdome (as formerlie he had done in England for the plantatioun of Vlster in Ireland), and being of intentioun to confer the said title and hounour of Barronet onlie vpoun suche his Ma^ts^ subjectis of the said ancient Kingdome of Scotland as wald be vndertakeris and furtheraris of the Plantatioun of New Scotland, and performe the conditionis appoyntit for thet effect, causit publict proclamatioun to be maid att the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh, be advise of his Ma^ts^ Counsell of the said Kingdome, geving notice to the cheiff gentrie, and all his Mat^ies^ subjectis of that Kingdome, of his Royall intentioun concerning the creatting of Barronettis, and conferring the said title and hounour vpon suche personis as his Mat^ie^ should think expedient, having performed the conditionis appoyntit for the said Plantatioun, To the effect the cheifest Knightis and Gentlemen of the Kingdome haveing notice of his Mat^ies^ princelie resolutioun, might (if they pleasit, be Vndertakeris in the said Plantatioun, and performe the appoyntit conditions), be first preferred be his Mat^ie^, and haue the said heretable hounour and title conferred vpoun thame and their aires maill for ever, or otherwayes be ther awne neglect and default want the same. And now, our Souerane Lord, being most carefull and desireous that his said umquhile dearest Fatheris resolutioun tak effect for the weale of this his said Kingdome, and the better furtherance of the said Plantatioun, and otheris goode considerationis moveing his Hienis, His Mat^ie^ hath already conferred the said heretable hounour and title of Barronnet vpoun diverse his Mat^ies^ subjectis of this his said Kingdome, of goode parentage, meanis, and qualitie, as grantit chartouris to thame and their airis maill for evir vnder the Grit Seale of the said Kingdome, conteining his Ma^s^ grant vnto thame of the said dignitie, and of the particular landis and boundis of New Scotland, designit vnto thame, and diverse liberties and priviledgeis conteinit in thair saidis patentis, and is of the intentioun to grant the like to otheris; and for the better furtherance of the said Plantatioun, and to per-

forme the conditionis appoyntit for that effect, and to haif the said hounour and title conferred vpoun thame may not be hinderit nor delayit be going to Court to procure from his Mat^ie^ thair severall patentis and grantis of the said dignity and landis in New Scotland to be grantit to thame, but may haif the same heir in Scotland, with less truble to his Mat^ie^, and chargis and expenssis to thamselffis, His Mat^ie^, of his royall and princelie power and speciall favour, hathe gevin and grantit a commission and full power to select a nomber of the Nobilitie and Counsell of this Kingdome, whose names are particularlie therein insert, or ony five of thame, the Chancellair, Thesaurair, and Secretair, being thrie of the five to ressaue resignationis of all landis within New Scotland, whilk sal happin to be resignit be Sir William Alexander, Knight, Maister of Requestes to his Mat^ie^ for the said Kingdome, and his Ma^s^ Lieutenant of New Scotland, in favouris of whatsomevir personis, and to grant patentis and infeftmentis thairof again to thame, together with the said heretable hounour and title, they haveing alwayes first performed to the said Sir William Alexander, his aires or assignayis, thair laughfull commissionaris or procuratouris haveing there powers, the conditionis appoyntit for the furtherance of the said Plantatioun, and bringing thame a certificat thairof in write under the handis of the said Sir Williame or his forsaidis, to be shewn and producit before the saidis commissionaris. And his Mat^ie^ haveing likewayes gevin informatioun to the Lordis of his Secreit Counsell of this Kingdome to certifie his subjectis thereof concerning his princelie will and pleasure anent the place due to the Barronettis and Knightis of the said Kingdome, Thairfore the saidis Lordis of Secreit Counsell, to the effect that nane pretend ignorance, Ordanis letters to be direct charging herauldis and officiaris of armeis to pas to the mercat croce of Edinburgh, and all otheris placeis neidfull, and mak publict intimatioun to all his Mat^s^ leiges and subjectis of this kingdome, That all suche as intend to be Barronnettis and Vndertakeris in the said Plantatioun, and to performe to the said Sir Williame, or his forsaidis, the Conditionis appoyntit for the furtherance of the said Plantatioun; and hauing a Certificat vnder his hand as said is, may repair and

resort to the saidis Commissionaris at all tymes convenient, and ressaue grantis and patentis from thame vnder the Grite Seale of this Kingdome of the landis of New Scotland to be resignit in thair favouris to the said Sir Williame, or his foirsaidis, with the like liberties and priviledgeis and otheris whatsoevir as ar grantit to the Barronettis alreadie maid in thair patentis alreadie past vnder the said Grite Seale, and of the said heretable title and honour of Barronett to thame, and thair aires maill for evir, and tak place and precedence according to the dates of their severall patentis to be grantit to thame, and no otherwayes. And in like maner to mak publicatioun that his Ma^s^ princelie will and pleasure is, That the Barronettis of this Kingdome maid and to be maid, haif, hald, tak, and enjoy, in all tyme comeing freelie, *but* ony impediment, the place, prioritie, and precedence in all respectis grantit to thame in thair severall patentis vnder the said Grite Seale, and that no Knight, Laird, Esquire, or Gentleman whatsoevir, who is not a Barronett, presoome, in ony conventioun or meeting, or at any tyme, place, or occasioun whatsoevir, to tak place, præcedence, præeminence befoir ony who is, or who sal heirafter be maid, a Baronet, neyther ony who is not a Knight tak place befoir ony who hathe the honour to be a Knight, thairby inverting the ordour vsed in all civile pairtis. Certifieing all his Ma^s^ leigeis and subjectis of this his Kingdome, and everie ane of thame who sal præsoome to do in the contrair heirof, That thay sall be most seveirlie punist be his Mat^ie^ and the saidis Lordis of his Counsell, as manifest comtempnaris of his Mat^s^ royall power and prærogative, and thereby geving occasioun to disturb the publict peace.

"Subscribitur ut supra,

"GEO. CANCELL. ROXBURGH.
MORTOUN. MELROS.
WINTOUN. LAUDERDAILL."
BUCCLEUGH.

(Reg. of Letters.)

Hitherto the Lieutenant of New Scotland had not much profited by the sale of lands or baronetcies. With the consent of the king, he inaugurated another

enterprise, which promised him no inconsiderable emolument. In composing his metrical version of the Psalms, which he intended to supersede the versions used by the Churches both of England and Scotland, the late king had consulted Sir William, but in his desire to be original, and yet to avail himself of the suggestions of the Menstry poet, his translation had so lagged that at the period of his death thirty-one psalms only were completed (Bishop Williams' Funeral Sermon on King James). The paucity of King James' psalms, and their unsuitableness for congregational use, were, however, not generally known — and resolving to complete the translation and assign it to the deceased sovereign, Sir William proceeded to initiate a movement for reaping the proceeds. In the king's name he addressed to Archbishop Spotswood of St Andrews the following letter:

"Right, &c. Whereas it pleased our late deare father of famous and eternall memorie, considdering how imperfect the Psalms in meeter presentlie used are, out of his zeale to the glorie of God and for the good of all his Churches within his dominions, to translate them of new, Therefore as wee have given commandement to o^r^ trustie and welbeloved Sir William Alexander, knight, to considder and view the meeter and poisie thereof, So our pleasure is that you cause some of the most learned daines (divines) within that our kingdome conserve them with the originall text, and with the most exact translations, and thereafter certifie both your opinions unto us concerning the same, whether it be fitting that they be published and sunge in churches in stead of the old Translation or not, To the intent that wee may neglect no thing so much importing the memorie of our said late deare father, and farre lesse if you find

that it may tend to the advancement of the glorie of God. And recommending the samen to your earnest care.—Wee are.

"WINDSORE, *the 25th of August* 1625." (Reg. of Letters).

Privately working at his translation of the Psalms, Sir William continued to urge his colonial enterprise. He experienced unexpected opposition, for at a convention of the Estates, held at Edinburgh in November 1625, the small barons presented a memorial, complaining that the precedency granted to the new order of baronets interfered with their hereditary dignities, and was otherwise unjustified. By a majority, the Estates approved the sentiments of the memorialists, and a resolution to that effect was prepared for submission to the king. Embodied in the records of Parliament, the memorial was by the Privy Council transmitted to his Majesty. At great length the Estates set forth that, whereas Sir William Alexander had alleged that the precedency of the baronets was essential to his undertaking, they held such an assertion to be unwarranted, and offered, in the event of the plantation of the colony being found expedient, to carry it out without charge or honorary recompense (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., pp. 185-188).

The Estates offered to do what they well knew they could not accomplish, nor would even seriously attempt. But the rapid advancement of a small landowner at court had moved them with jealousy and indignation. Their leader was Thomas Hamilton, Earl of Melrose, a favourite of the late

king, and who now held office as principal secretary. His interference was followed by his summary ejectment from office, while the lieutenant-general was nominated to his post. To the Vice-Chancellor of Scotland, the king notified the new appointment in these terms:

"Right trustie, &c. Whereas having long experience, both during the tyme of our late deere father & in our tyme, of the sufficiencie of our trustie & wel beloved counselloor, Sir William Alexander, knig^{t}, for our service, we have made choyce of him to be our Secretarie attending us at courte. Our pleasure is, that you cause all the packets that come from our counsell there contyning the affaires of that our kingdom to be directed unto him, that he may acquaint us therewith, and that you cause expede his grant of the said office through the sealls whensoever it comes to your hands with all diligence,* for doing whereof these presents shall be unto you a sufficient warrand.

"WHYTHALL, *the* 28 *of Januarii* 1625-6" (Reg. of Letters).

In crushing an opponent, Sir William Alexander suddenly attained a pitch of greatness. Lieutenant-General of New Scotland, he also bore rule in the old kingdom. His determination to maintain his order of baronets, and uphold his prerogative, is evinced in the following royal letter which he despatched to the Estates:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, Right trustie

* The diligence exercised was very ordinary, for Sir William Alexander's appointment as "principal secretary for life on demission of Thomas, Earl of Haddington," was not recorded in the Register of the Great Seal, till the 20th October 1627, or nearly two years after the date of the warrant (Reg. Mag. Sig., ii. 439). The Earl of Melrose exchanged his title for that of Earl of Haddington, which was confirmed to him by patent on the 18th October 1627.

and weilbeloved Cousines and Counsellours, Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, We Greet you weill. Whereas our late deare Father did determyne the Creating of Knyghts Barronetts within that our Kingdome, haveing first had the advyse of his Privie Counsall therevnto, whose congratulatorie approbation may appear by a letter of thanks sent vnto him thairefter, And seeing the whole gentrie war adverteised of this his Royall resolutioun by publict proclamationis, that these of the best sort, knowing the same, might have tyme to begin first, and be preferred vnto vthers, or then want the said honour in their awin default, a competent tyme being appoynted vnto them by the said Counsall that they might the more advysedlie resolve with them selffis therein. In consideratioun whairof we wer pleased to give a commission vnder our great seall, whereby the saidis Knights Barronetts, might be created according to the conditions formerlie condescendit vpoun. And heirafter hearing that sindrie gentlemen of the best sort wer admitted to the said dignitie, we never haveing heard of aney complaynt against the same till the work efter this maner was broght to perfection, it could not bot seeme strange vnto us that aney therefter should have presented such a petition as wes given to the last Conventioun, so much derogatorie to our Royall prærogative, and to the hindering of so worthie a work, or that the samyne should have bene countenanced or suffered to have been further prosecuted. Now, to the effect that the said work may have no hinderance heirefter, our pleasur is that the course so advysedlie prescryved by us, to the effect foirsaid, may be publectlie knowen of new, wairning the said gentrie that they may either procure the said dignitie for them selffis, or not repyne at others for doeing the same. And that you have a speciall care that none of the saidis Knyghts Barronetts be wronged in ther previledgeis, by punisching aney persone who dar presum to doe aney thing contrairie to ther grants as a manifest contemner of our authoritie and disturbour of the publict peace. And if it sall happin heirefter that the said Commission, by the death or change of aney persones appoynted Commissioneris to this effect, shall need be renewed,

Our further pleasur is, that at the desyre of our trustie and weilbelovit Counsellour, Sir William Alexander, Kny^t^, our Secretarie, or his aires, the same be given of new to the Commissioneris of our Excheker, the Chancellour, Thesaurer, or Thesaurer deputie, or aney tuo of them, being alwyse of the number, giveing them such power in all respects as is conteyned in the former Commission, with this addition onlie that we doe heirby authorize our Chancellour for the tyme being, to Knyght the eldest sones of the saidis Knyghts Baronets, being of perfite aige and 21 Zeires, he being requyred to that effect. And we will that a clause, bearing the lyk power, be particularlie insert in the said new Commission, if vpoun the caussis foirsaid it be renewed, And that the samyne by our said Chancellour, be accordinglie performed. So we bid, &c.

"WHYTHALL, *February* 12, 1626" (Reg. of Letters).

Though the wishes of Scottish barons, as expressed both through Parliament and the Privy Council, had been rejected, it was found inexpedient wholly to disregard public sentiment in the north. The last creation of baronets had occurred on the 28th December; and unless conciliatory measures were adopted, an obstructive policy in Scotland might, it was felt, retard the appearance of applicants for the new dignity. So the Earl of Melrose was assured, by a royal letter dated 24th March, that he had not been deprived "by sinistrous suggestions and calumnies of informers," but owing to the necessity that the king experienced of having a secretary for Scottish affairs resident at court. He was also informed that the change in the secretaryship should not otherwise "derogate from his grant or priviledge" (Register of Letters). On the same day a royal

letter was addressed to the chancellor, Sir George Hay of Kinfauns (afterwards Earl of Kinnoull), authorising him to confer knighthood on the eldest sons of baronets, "without putting them to aney charges" (Reg. of Letters).

There were other grumblers. Of these the most conspicuous was Sir John Stuart of Traquair, subsequently Earl of Traquair. As a leader of the Estates, he had steadily resisted the precedence assigned to New Scotland baronets; he was, in the following royal letter, commanded to assume the title he had affected to despise:

"To the Laird of Traquair.

"Trustie and weilbeloved, &c. We, &c. Though ther have bene warning gevin to all the gentrie of that our Kingdome by publict proclamation, that thay might in dew tyme come to be creatted Knyght Barrounettis, and not compleane heirefter of vtheris befoir whom they might expect to have place wer preferred vnto them, yet we have thoght fitt to tak particular notice of yow. And the rather becaus it would seeme that yow not knowing or mistaking our intention in a matter so much concerning our royall praerogative for the furthering of so noble a work, did seik to hinder the same. Therefor Our pleasur is, that yow with diligence embrace the said dignitye, and performe the conditionis as others doe, or that yow expect to be heard no more in that purpois, nor that yow compleane no more heirefter of others to be preferred vnto yow. So not doubting but that bothe by your selff and with others yow will vse your best meanes for furthering of this work, wherby you may doe to ws acceptable service, We bid, &c.

"Whythall, 24 *March* 1626."

Two other malcontents, the Laird of Waughton

and the Laird of Wemyss, also received summonses. The former was informed that his being willing to receive a baronetcy, would do his sovereign "acceptable pleasure;" while the Laird of Wemyss was assured that his accepting a baronetcy would prove "a stepp to a further title." These commands, though proceeding in the king's name, bore evidence of their origin too closely to effect the intended purpose. Both "the lairds" refused the proffered titles.

Sir William Alexander persisted vigorously. Consequent on a royal warrant, dated 12th of February, the Privy Council issued, on the 30th March, the following proclamation:

"Apud Halyrudhous, *Penultimo Martii* 1626.

"Forsamekle as our Soverane Lordis umquhile darrest Father, of blissed and famous memorie, out of his princelie and tender regaird of the honnour and credite of this his ancient kingdome of Scotland, And for the better encourageing of the gentrie of the said Kingdome, in imitatioun of the vertuous projectis and enterprises of otheris, to vndertak the Plantatioun of New Scotland in America, determined, with advise of the Lordis of his Privie Counsell, the creating of ane new heretable title of dignitie within the said Kingdome callit Knight Barronet, and to confer the same vpoun suche personis of goode parentaige, meanis and qualitie, as wald be vndertakeris in the said Plantatioun. And of this his Royall and princelie resolution, importing so far the honnour and credite of the Kingdome, publicatioun and intimatioun wes maid be open proclamatioun, with all solempnitie requisite, to the intent those of the best not knawing the same might haif had tyme first to begin and to haif bene preferrit to otheris, And then through ther awne default or negligence the want of the said honnour to haif bene imputt to thameselffis,

Like as a competent tyme wes appoyntit and assignit be the saidis Lordis vnto thame for that effect, whairthrow they might the more advisedlie haif resolved thairin. And oure Souerane Lord, following his said darrest Fatheris resolutionis in this poynt, causit not onlie renew the said Proclamatioun, Bot for the ease of his Ma^{s} subjectis and saulfing of thame from neidles and unnacessair travell, chargeis, and expenssis, grantit ane commission vnder his Grite Seale, whairby the saidis Knightis Barronettis might be created and thair patentis exped in this Kingdome. Like as accordinglie sundrie Gentlemen of the best sort embraced the conditioun of the Plantatioun, wer admittit to the said dignitie of Barronet, and no question or objectioun wes moved aganis the same till the worke wes brought to a perfectioun, then some of the gentrie repynning at the praecedencie done to thir Barronettis, whilk proceidit vpon thair awin sleughe and negligence in not tymous imbraceing the conditionis of the said Plantatioun, They maid some publick oppositioun aganis the precedencie done to thir Barronettis, and so did what in thame lay to haif hinderit the Plantatioun foirsaid; whairof informatioun being maid to his Mat^{ie}, and his Mat^{ie} considdering the goode and necessar groundis whairby first his said darrest Father and then himself wer moved to creat the dignitie and ordour foirsaid of Barronettis, and his Mat^{ie} continewing in a firme and constant purpois and resolutioun that the worke foirsaid sall yett go fordward and no hindrance maid thairvnto, Thairfore his Mat^{ie}, with advyse of the Lordis of his Secreit Counsell, ordanis letters to be direct chargeing Officieris of armes to pas to the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh and otheris places neidfull, and thair be opin publicatioun mak said publicatioun and intimatioun of his Ma^{s} royall will and pleasur that the course so advysedlie prescryued be his Mat^{ie} to the effect foirsaid sall be yitt followit oute; And thairfore to wairne all and sundrie the gentrie of this kingdome, That thay either procure the said dignitie for thameselffis Or not repyne at otheris for doing of the same. And to command, charge and inhibite all and sindrie his Ma^{s} leiges and subjects that nane of thame presoome nor tak vpoun hand to wrong the saidis Knightis Barronettis in

ony of thair priviledgeis, nor to doe nor attempt ony thing contrair to thair grantis and patentis, Certifieing thame that sall failzie or doe in the contrair, That thay salbe punist as contempnaris of his Ma^{s} inclinatioun, and disturbaris of the publick peace" (Reg. of Letters).

An early adventurer in the plantation of Newfoundland was Sir William Vaughan,* younger brother of Sir John Vaughan of Golden Grove, Caermarthenshire, afterwards Earl of Carberry. Sir William Vaughan was LL.D. of Oxford, and a poet and elegant scholar, but, like his contemporary, Sir William Alexander, he was also ambitious of political distinction. Obtaining from James I. a grant of land at the south-eastern angle of Newfoundland, he styled the same Cambriol, and there planting a Welsh colony, for some years resided in the settlement. Visiting London in the spring of 1626, Sir William Alexander invited him to an interview. In a work, entitled "The Golden Fleece,"† published the same year, Vaughan has expressed the substance of Sir William Alexander's conversation in these words:

"This learned knight, with a joyful countenance and alacrity of mind, taking me by the hand, thus began: 'I have oftentimes wished to confer with you, but until this present I could not

* Sir William Vaughan was born at Golden Grove, Caermarthenshire, in 1577. He became a commoner of Jesus College, Oxford, in 1591. Among his publications are "Varia Poemata de Sphærarum Ordine," Lond. 1589; "Canticum Canticorum Salomonis," 1597; "Poemata continent Econ]Roberti Comitis Essex," 1598; "The Golden Grove," 1600; "Directions for Health," 1617.

† The Golden Fleece, transported from Cambrioll Colchos out of the southernmost part of the island, commonly called the New-found-land. By Orpheus Junior. Lond. 1626. 4to.

find the opportunity. It is necessary, and this necessity jumps with the sympathy of our Constellations (for I think we were both born under the same Horoscope), that we advise and devise some Project for the proceedings and successful managing of our plantations. As you obtained a Patent of the Southernmost part of Newfoundland and transplanted thither some of your countrymen of Wales, baptising the same by the name of Cambrioll; so have I got a Patent of the neighbouring Country unto yours Westward beyond Cape Breton, Christening it New Scotland. You have spent much, and so have I, in advancing these hopeful Adventures.

"'But as yet neither of us (*sic* ?) arrived at the Haven of our expectations. Only, like a wary Politician, you suspend your breath for a time, until you repair your losses sustained by some of Sir Walter Raleigh's Company in their return from Guiana; while your neighbours, the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Falkland, and my Lord Baltimore, to whom you assigned the Northerly part of your Grant, do undergo the whole burden, supporting it with brave resolution, and a great deal of expense, which otherwise you were obliged to performe. The like inconveniences I have felt, even in the infancy of my attempt; whether the effects proceeded through the late season of the year, when we set out the Colony; or by the slowness of our people, who, wearied in their passage at sea, by reason of contrary winds, rested themselves too long at St John's Harbour, and at my Lord of Baltimore's plantation, I knowe not; but sure I am, it cost me and my friends very dear, and brought us into much decrements; and hath well nigh disheartened my poor Countrymen, if, at my humble suit, our most Noble and Generous King Charles had not, out of his Royal magnificence and respective care to us and our Posterities, restored and revived our courages, by conferring such monies as might arise by the creation of Knights Baronets in Scotland, towards the erecting of this new Fabrick and heroical Action. And yet I fear all this will not suffice and defray the charge.

"'In such abundance doth my native Country of Scotland overswarm with people, that, if new habitations be not suddenly

provided for them, as Hives for Bees, they must either miscarry of want, or turn Drones unprofitable to the Owner, as you well remembered in your Poetical works which you termed "Cambrensium Caroleia."

> "Si nova non apibus condas, Rex, alvea; Fuci
> Ignavi fient, nec tibi lucra ferent."

"'We need not complain, with our Saviour in the Gospel, that the Harvest is great and the Labourers few; for we have many Labourers which would willingly manure this maiden soil, and with the painful sweat of their brows reap what they sow. But the charge of transporting them, with such implements and domestical cattle, as must be had now at the first, cannot but grow to an excessive cost. To expect more helps than it pleased our most bountiful King already to bestow upon us, will be in vain, I doubt, considering the scarcity of money in these days, which not only in Scotland, but likewise all his Majesty's Dominions do affirm to be true. The native and genuine salt of the earth, which fructified our Cornfields with so many infinite ploughings of our Ancestors, and ours, is spent; nor will Lime or Marle ever recover them to the pristine and antient vigour and fertility. English Cloth, which heretofore was dignified with the title of the Golden Fleece, grows out of request, yea (and with inward grief I speak it), in contempt also among the Owners and Inhabitants themselves. Our Tin, Lead, and Coal Mines begin to fail. Our Woods which Nature produced, and our Fathers left us for firing, for reparations of decayed Houses, Ploughs and Shipping, are lately wasted by the Covetousness of a few Ironmasters. What, then, remains in this famous Isle? Except we relieve our Wants by Navigation, and these must be by Fishing by hook or by crook, by Letters of Mart, by way of reprisals or revenge, or else by Traffick and Commerce with other Nations besides Spaniards. I would we could invent and hit upon some profitable means for the settling of these glorious works, whereto it seems the divine Providence hath elected us as instruments under our Earthly Soveraigne.'"

In the summer of 1626, Sir William Alexander

began to arrange an expedition for the next spring. His intention is notified in the following royal letter addressed to the Privy Council:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Haveing considered your letter concerning the fees that ar clamed from the Knyght Barronets, thogh at the first it did appear vnto us that none could justlie challenge fees of them by verteu of any grant that was given before that ordour was erected, yet befoir we would resolve what was to be done heirin, we caused enquyre of the cheff heraulds and other officers within this our kingdome, wher the said dignitię of Barronet was first instituted by our late dear Father: And doe find that the barronets are bund to pay no feyis, nor did pay evir any thing at all save that which they did voluntarlie to the heraulds, of whome they had present vse. And therfor, seeing ther creation within that our kingdome is for so good a caus, wherby a Colony is making readie for setting furth this next Spring to begin a work that may tend so much to the honnour and benefite of that kingdome, we would have them everie way to be encouraged, and not, as we wryt befoir, putt to neidles charges; and our pleasur is, that none as Baronetts to be made be bund to pay feys bot what they shalbe pleased to doe out of ther owin discretion to the heraulds, or to any suche officiers of whom they shall have vse. And as for ther eldest sones, whensoever any of them is cum to perfyte aige and desyrs to be knighted, let them pay the feyis allowed hertofor to be payed by other knightis.

"For doeing wherof, We, &c.

"OATLANDIS, 28 *July* 1626" (Reg. of Letters).

Having furthered his arrangements, Sir William announced to the Privy Council in January that a small fleet which should proceed to his new colony was in active preparation. The letter to the Council is in these terms:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Whereas Sir William Alexander, Kny^t, our Secretarie for Scotland, haueing gevin band to the Knyght barronetts of that oure Kingdome, that of all such money as he hath, or is to receave from them, he shall imploy the just two parts thairof for setting furth a Colony for the plantatioun of New Scotland, which is to be estimated and considered according to the conditions agreed vpon betweene him and the said knyghts baronets. And the said Sir William haueing for performeing his part prepared a schip, with ordinance, munition, and all other furnitour necessar for hir, as lykwyse another schip of great burden, which lyeth at Dumbartane, togidder with sindrie other provisions necessarie for so far a voyadge and so great work therfoir, that the treuth thairof may be publicklie knowen, and that all such monnyis as he hath disbursed heirvpon may be trewlie summed up, Our pleasur is, that haueing surveyed the said schip, yow estimat and value hir to the worth, as lykwyes other furniture and provisions that yow find in hir, or to be sent with hir for this purpois; and with all his charges he hath bene heir for the same, and thairefter that yow delyver vnto him a trew Inventure and Estimat therof vnder your hands, that it may heirefter serve for clearing his accompts with the said Knyght Barronetts, and for haueing the same allowed vnto him by them, &c.

"WHYTHALL, 17 *Ja^r.* 1627" (Reg. of Letters).

In the preceding letter, Sir William obviously refers to the general belief that in creating baronets he merely sought to retrieve his losses, and had no actual intention of proceeding with his colonial enterprise. To further prove his sincerity, he, on the 17th January, made a formal application to the Earl of Totnes, Master of the English Ordnance, for a supply of certain guns,—viz., "16 Minner, 4 saker, and 6 falcor;" these he desired to be sent to Dumbarton (Reg. of Letters).

To meet the cost of the new expedition, money was urgently required. No portion of the sum of £6000, for repayment of which Sir William held a royal warrant, had been discharged, and it became expedient that a new effort should be made for its recovery. At his instance, the king directed to Sir James Baillie, the Scottish Treasurer of Marine, the following missive:

"Whereas Sir William Alexander, o^r^ Secretarie for Scotland, had a Warrant from our late dear Father, which is ratified by us to o^r^ Trer. of England, for payment of the soume of Six thousand pounds sterling, which lang since was intended to have bane payed here; but seeing now it may be more convenientlie done out of this casuell commoditie, wherewith Wee have appointed yow to intromett: Our pleasure is, and Wee will you to pay vnto the said Sir William, or his assignes, the said soume of Six thousand pounds sterling, and that out of the first readiest moneyes that you haue or shall receaue for our part of the prises taken or to be taken within that our kingdome, for doing whereof these pnts. shall be vnto you a sufficient warrant.

"Given at o^r^ Court at Whitehall, the 19 of January 1627.

"To o^r^ trustie and weil beloued S^r^ James Baillie, Tresaurer of o^r^ Marine Causes within that o^r^ Kingdome of Scotland." (Reg. of Letters).

The preceding royal letter to the Scottish Treasurer of Marine was followed, at the interval of a week, by a letter to the Earl Marischal in these terms:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Whereas our late deare Father was pleased to creat knyght Barronetts in Scotland, as he had done in his vther

kingdomes, and that for a honourabile caus, by enlargeing the Christiane fayth and our dominions. And we understand that sindrie of the most ancient gentrie embraceing the said dignitie have payed these moneyis condescendit vpon for their part towards the plantation of New Scotland. Thogh ther have bene sufficient warning gevin to all the gentrie of that our kingdome, baith in the time of our said late dear Father and in ours, notwithstanding it be in our power frielie to conferre honour vpon any of our subjects as we in our judgment shall think they deserve, yet out of our gratious favour we ar willing that everie ane of the said gentrie have the place which may be thoght due vnto them in so far as can clearlie be discerned, or otherways that they be inexcusable by neglecting so fair ane opportunitie as by this meanes is presented vnto them, and considering that it doeth most properlie belong to your charge, as Marschell, to judge of ranks and precedencie, thoght it be difficult to knowe wher so many ar of equal qualitie, yet to the effect that they be ranked in some measur as neir as can be that place which may be thoght to be their due, Our pleasur is, that assumeing to your selff such assessours here present as you shall think requisite, you condescend vpon such a number as yow and they shall think fitt to be barronetts, ranking them as you shall think expedient, that out of that number the barronetts limited by the Commission may be selected to the effect we may pass ther signatures accordinglie; so that by embraceing the said place in due tyme we may mak vse of this our gratious favour and otherwyse least our trustie and weilbeloved Sir William Alexander, our Secretar, who is our Lieutenant of the said Cuntrie, and who besyds he is now to sett furth in this Spring, hath bene at great charges hertofor in the work of that Plantation, should be dissabled from prosecuting of that purpois, we ar willing that he proceed with such others as yow shall think fitt to maneteane that dignitie, for Wee desyre that the ancient gentrie may be first preferred; but if they, by neglecting so noble ane interpryse, shall not mak vse of our favour in this, we think it good reasone that these persones who have succeeded to good estates, or acquyred them by ther owin industrie, and ar generouslie disposed

to concurre with our said servand in this Interpryse, should be preferred to the said dignitie, and to this effect, that yow mak them in maner abovespecifeit, haueing for your better proceeding herein, appoynted a Roll to be given yow of diverse of the names of the said gentrie as ar knowen to be of qualitie, which were considered by yow in maner foresaid; and haueing selected such of them as yow shall find to be most fitt for this purpois, that yow sett down a roll of them in ordour and rank vnder your own hand, to be schawin vnto ws. And so, &c.

"HAMPTON COURT, *the* 26 *of Jar.* 1627."

This letter was accompanied by a roll containing the names of "the ancient gentry," and of those "who had succeeded to good estates, or acquired them through industry." On the 3d March, the importance of promoting the creation of baronets was urged upon the Privy Council in the following missive:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Wheras, by direction from ws, a survey hath bene made of diverse provisions and necessaries to be sent this Spring by our trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, Sir William Alexander our Secretarie, for the vse of a Colony to be planted in New Scotland, wherby it doeth evidentlie appear, as is reported bak vnto ws by the survegheris, that the said Sir William hath bene at much more charges than as yit he hath received moneyis from the Knyght Barronetts of that our Kingdome, who hath condescended, according to ther severall bands made to him, for advancing of such moneyis towardis the said plantation, so that of the number of persones condescended vpon by our late dear Father, and approved by ws, to have the style of Knyght Barronetts, should not be fullie compleit, or if that tymelie satisfaction be not gevin, according to their bandis, that hopefull work, so much recommended to ws by our said Father and ws, is lyklie to desert; and our said servand, who hath bene first and

last at so great charges therin, vtterlie vndone in his esteat. And in regard by reasone of our service heir that his absence from thence wilbe a great hinderance to the bringing of this purpois of the Barronetts to perfection, we have thoght good heirby to desyre yow, whois effectual assistance we ar confident may much conduce to this purpois, that yow may vse your best [endeavours], both in privat and publict, as yow shall think most fitt for bringing the said purpois to some perfection, when we will expect your best endeavours, seeing it is a matter we speciallie respect.

"NEWMARKET, 3 *March* 1627" (Reg. of Letters).

CHAPTER IV.

MEMOIR OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER—FROM THE SAILING OF HIS SECOND EXPEDITION TO NEW SCOTLAND TO THE ABANDONMENT OF PORT ROYAL.

THOUGH described in a royal letter as "utterlie vndone in his esteat," the Lieutenant of New Scotland actively prepared his fleet. The progress of his operations is reported in the following letter addressed by the king to the Earl of Marlborough, High Treasurer of England:

"10 *March* 1627.

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Whereas the good shipp called the Eagle, of the burthen of one hundreth and 20 tunnes, or thereabouts, now lying in the River of Thames (whereof Ninian Barclay is captaine), is loaden with powder, ordonance, and other provisions, for the vse of a plantation, ordained to be made in New Scotland, by our speciall direction, and for the vse of ane other shippe, of the burthen of 300 tunnes, now lying at Dumbartan, in Scotland, which is likewise to goe for the said plantation of New Scotland: Our pleasure is, that you give order to all whom it concerneth, that the said shippe, with all her provisions, furniture, and loading, as being for our own particular service, may pass from the river of Thames without paying custome, subsidie, or any other duetie, and free from any other lett or impediment: And for your so doeing, this shalbe your sufficient warrant.

"THEOBALDES, *the* 10 *of Merche* 1627.

"To our right trustie and welbeloved cousin and counsellor, the Earle of Marleborrough, our heigh Tressurer of England."

An unexpected impediment arose. Andrew Baxter, an adventurous Scotsman, had offered, in his ship the "Morning Star," to accompany Sir William Alexander's emigrant ship, the "Eagle," in her voyage to New Scotland. But Baxter was in debt, and his creditors, fearing utter disaster to his property, arrested his vessel in the Dover Roads. Sir William applied to Mr Edward Nicholls, Secretary of the Admiralty, begging him to give help. His letter proceeds thus:

"Sr.—There is a Shipp called the Morning Starre which is tyed in consort to attend a Shippe of mine in her intended voyage to Nova Scotia to doe his Matie Service (which I know you are not ignorant of), the which shipp is now stayed lying in Dover Road, and not willing to depart vntill suche tyme as she be released by his Crs (Creditors): the Mrs name is Andrew Baxter, who is readie to attend to his Crs demands and directions att all occasions. I doe therfore intreate you that you will doe me that favor to move his Crs concerninge the release of the said shipp, seeing it concernethe his Maties service so much, the staye whereof will be the overthrowne of this voyage: ffor which favor I shall be ready to doe you the like courtesie when any the like occasion of yours shall present. In the mean tyme I rest Yor lovinge ffriend, WM. ALEXANDER.

"WHITEHALL, *this 9th of April* 1627.

"This Shipp was cleered a fortnight before the restraynt to goe in hir intended voyage.

"To my very worthy and much respected ffriend, Mr Edward Nicholls, Secretarie ffor the Admeraltie for the Lord

Duke of Buckinghame" (Colonial Papers Calendar, p. 84).

Of Andrew Baxter and his ship we are not further informed. Meanwhile Sir William Alexander was alarmed by gloomy and eventful tidings. On the counsel of Cardinal Richelieu, the French had determined to re-assert their title to La Cadie, a territory which embraced every portion of New Scotland. The cardinal had formed the Company of New France, otherwise styled the Hundred Associates, by which Port Royal was to be occupied, and planted with several hundred tradesmen as pioneers; thereafter one thousand colonists were to be despatched to the country every year. Captain David Kertch, a French Calvinist, who communicated this intelligence, undertook, if intrusted with the command of Sir William's fleet, to oppose the cardinal and his projected settlement. His services being accepted, he recommended that Sir William should be constituted Admiral, as well as Lieutenant, of New Scotland. The royal commission for this purpose was readily procured, Sir William, as Admiral of New Scotland, receiving power to "seize vessels belonging to the King of Spain, the Infanta Isabella, or others, the king's enemies" (Colonial Papers Calendar, p. 84). No special authority was given to contend with the French, as, notwithstanding the evil rumours, the two countries were in perfect amity.

Captain Kertch was named Depute-Admiral, with

all the powers vested in his chief. With a small force, he attacked the French squadron, which he defeated, securing as prizes eighteen transports, with 135 pieces of ordnance destined for the fortification of Port Royal and Quebec (Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 43). The tidings of this success gave a prestige to Sir William Alexander's colonial scheme which it had not attained heretofore. Between the 18th October 1627 and the 22d February 1627-8, fourteen patents of baronetcy were issued and recorded. Sir William applied the proceeds in chartering vessels. Further to indicate his earnestness in the undertaking, he intimated that his eldest son would accompany the fleet.

To a young man of superior culture and considerable energy, the prospect of opening up a new field for colonial enterprise was no doubt attractive. William Alexander the younger was introduced at court, and honoured with knighthood. Constituted Knight Admiral of New Scotland, a seal for his special use was, by authority of the Scottish Privy Council, prepared by Charles Dickieson, "sinkear of his Majesteis yrnes." This seal the Privy Council instructed, was to display

"A shippe with all her ornaments and apparrelling, the mayne saile onelie displayed with the armes of New Scotland, bearing a Saltoire with ane scutcheon of the ancient armes of Scotland, and vpon the head of the said shippe careing ane vnicorne sittand, and ane savage man standing vpoun the sterne, both bearing St Androes Croce."

It was to have the following legend:

"Sigillum Gulielmi Alexandri Militis Magni Admiralli Novi Scotiæ" (Reg. of Letters).

In command of a fleet of four vessels, Sir William Alexander the younger proceeded to Scotland in the end of March 1628. He bore the following missive:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Whareas the four schippis, called the . . . belonging to Sir William Alexander, Knight, son to Sir Williame Alexander, our Secretarie for Scotland; whareof the . . . are to set out towards Newfoundland, the River of Canada, and New Scotland, for settling of Colonies in those partes, and for other thare laufull effaires: Theis are, tharefore, to will and require you, and everie one of you, to permitt and suffer the said schippes, and everie one of them, with thare wholl furneture, goods, merchandice, schips companies, and planties, quietlie and peaceabillie in thare going thither, returning from thence, or during thare being furthe in any other parte whatsoever, till they shall happin to returne to any of our dominiones, to pas by you, without any of your lettes, stayes, troubles, imprestis of ther men, or any other men, or any other hinderance whatsoever: Whareof you shall not faill.

"WHITEHALL, *the* 26 *March* 1628" (Reg. of Letters).

The fleet having moored on the Scottish coast, many persons accepted bounties and then escaped. The following manifesto was consequently issued by the Privy Council:

"APUD HALYRUDHOUS,

"*Vicesimo tertio die mensis Aprilis* 1628.

"Forsameekill as it is vnderstaud be the Lords of Secreit Counsell that diuerse persons who wer conduced and tane on be Sir Williame Alexander, Knight, and his officiars, to have beene transported be thame for the plantatioun of New Scotland, haue

most unworthilie abandoned that service and imployment, refuising to performe the conditionis of thar agreement, To the disappointing of that intendit Plantation which his Majestie so earnestlie affects, ffor remedeing of which vndewtifull dealing, the saids Lords recommends to the Shireffs, Justices of peace, and Proveists and Bailleis within burgh, and thairwith all giues thame power and commissione, everie ane of thame, within thair awin bounds and jurisdictioun, to take tryell of all and sindrie persouns who, haueing covenanted with the said Sir Williame Alexander, or his officers, to goe with thame to New Scotland, haue abandoned that service and runne away, and ather to compell thame to performe the conditionis of thair agreement, or otherwayes to doe justice vpon thame, according to the merite of thair trespasse: And that the saide Shireffs, Justices of peace, Provests, and Bailleis within burgh concurre, countenance, and assist the said Sir Williame Alexander and his officers in all and everie thing that may further and aduance the service foresaids: And for this effect, that the said Shireffs and others foresaids delyuer the said persouns to the said Sir Williame Alexander and his officers, it being first qualified that they have ressaued money from the said Sir Williame and his officers, or that they haue beene in service and enterteaned by thame."

The fleet left Scotland in May, carrying upwards of seventy colonists, who were safely landed at Port Royal. Among the prisoners captured by Captain Kertch, was Claude de La Tour, a person of some fortune and considerable enterprise. From the French Government he had lately obtained an extensive grant on the river St John, but being a Protestant, he was not indisposed to meet the wishes of his new masters (Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 43).

The success of Captain Kertch aroused the cupi-

dity of not a few English adventurers, who sought at court to procure a right of trafficking with the new colony. To defeat their efforts, Sir William Alexander the younger returned to Britain. We have some particulars concerning him in the following letter, despatched on the 23d November 1628, by Mr William Maxwell of Edinburgh to Sir John Maxwell of Pollok:

"It is for certaintie that Sir William Alexander is come home againe from Nova Scotia, and heath left behind him 70 men and tua weemen, with provisioun to serve tham be the space of ane yeir, being placet in a pairt of the countrie quhilk is a naturall strenthe, togithir withe some cannoun, muskett, pouder, and bullet, in caice of some suddent invasioun, togethir withe all thingis necessar for thair present vse; and is to goe hither againe in the spring with a new plantatioun. Bot since he came home the Englische men ar suiten of his Majestie to plant and possesse quhatsumever lands thairof quhilk they please, and there to be halden of the Crowne of England. Quhat salbe the event, I know not" (The Maxwells of Pollok, edited by William Fraser, vol. ii., p. 200).

In the assertion of his privileges, Sir William Alexander the elder communicated with the Scottish Privy Council, entreating their support. Accordingly, on the 28th November, that body addressed a memorial to the king, setting forth that a petition had been presented to them, "in the name of some interested in New Scotland and Canada," showing that they had "adventured soums of money for setting furth of a colonie to plant there, and that they understood that by reasoun of a voyage, made by ane

Captain Kercht thither this last sommer, there are some making sute for a new patent to be held of the Crown of England." The Council desired that the original grant to Sir William Alexander, and the undertakers under his authority, should be confirmed, and that nothing should be done "derogatory to their ancient kingdom" (Reg. of Letters).

The English adventurers were frustrated, and a royal patent was granted to Sir William Alexander the younger, and others, incorporating them as "sole traders" in the Gulf and River of Canada. They were further empowered to settle a plantation "within all parts of the gulf and river above those parts which are over against Kebeck (Quebec) on the south side, or above twelve leagues below Todowsack on the north side," while all others were prohibited from making any voyage into the said gulf or river, "upon payne of confiscation." Sir William Alexander, younger, and his friends, were also authorised to "make prize of all French or Spanish ships and goods at sea or land, and to displant the French." This patent was accompanied with a special commission to Sir William Alexander and others, dated 4th February 1629, by which they were empowered "to make a voyage into the Gulf and River of Canada, and the parts adjacent, for the sole trade of beaver wools, beaver skins, furs, hides, and skins of wild beasts" (Colonial Papers, p. 96).

In his private affairs the lieutenant-general seemed

on the verge of further prosperity. On the 27th August 1627, he obtained a royal signature, which, by prohibiting his docqueting any paper issuing in the king's name without special authority, enabled him to exact terms for completing transactions of state. He was at the same time appointed Keeper of the Signet, these duties being discharged by a deputy at Edinburgh, while the dues were made payable to himself (Register of Letters). By these arrangements, no Scotsman could be introduced at court, obtain a royal warrant, or pursue an action in the Scottish law courts, without contributing to his revenues. He obtained further emolument. James Douglas, his predecessor as Scottish secretary at court, had an allowance as aliment of "three dishes." But Douglas was a depute-secretary, whereas Sir William was head of his department. By reason of his superior dignity he was allowed, in commutation, £500 per annum. The royal warrant, authorising the Earl of Pembroke, as Lord Chamberlain, to make this payment, proceeds thus:

"Right, &c. Whereas wee have appoynted o^{r} trustie and welbeloved servant Sir William Alexander, knight, o^{r} Secretarie for the kingdome of Scotland, to give his attendance and be alwise resident in his own persone at o^{r} Court for the dispatch of such busines as shall happen concerning the affaires of o^{r} said kingdome, by meanes whereof and the continuall resort of many persones of speciall note and qualite, the dyett of three dishes, formerlie allowed to James Douglas, who executed the seyd place as deputie, will neither be competent nor for our honor to

be allowed to a person of that ranke and such as often tymes by occasion shall resort unto his boord. It is therefore our will and pleasure that the said dyett of three dishes shall from the first day of October neaxt cease and determine, and that from the seyd tyme, there be put forth and allowed unto him a dyett or mess of meats of seven dishes everie meall according to the usuall faire of o^{r} house, wherein because the charge contained in a book lately by us signed for the establishment of o^{r} house wilbe somewhat increased. These are therefore to authorize and appoynt you to direct your warrant to o^{r} Attorney Generall to prepaire a bill ready for our signature to passe our signet and privie seale for the soume of fyve hundred punds more to be added to the assignment of o^{r} house out of o^{r} customes and impost, the sayme to be payed to the cofferers or cofferer of o^{r} house for the tyme being everie Michaelmas time, for the defraying of the charge of the sayd new dyett, so longe as the same shall have continuance. And for soe doeing these shall be your warrant.—Given at o^{r} honor of Hampton Court, the day of 1627."

Anticipating the complete success of his Canadian enterprise, the lieutenant-general resolved to establish a shipping port on the west coast of Scotland. He accordingly obtained a royal charter of the lands and muir of Largs, at the mouth of the river Clyde. This charter, dated 11th April 1627, set forth, that whereas the lands of Largs and Largs Muir, and the town and village of the same, belonged to the king, as Prince and High Steward of Scotland, his Majesty, "considering the great and manifold services rendered to his father and himself by his well-beloved counsellor Sir William Alexander," more especially "his care, toils, and endeavours for establishing and founding his colony of America called

Nova Scotia," granted him and his heirs the whole of the said territory, which was also erected into a free barony, to be called the burgh of Largs. In this charter, Sir William was further empowered to build a free port and haven at Largs for "advancing trade and commerce" between Scotland and Nova Scotia (Reg. Mag. Sig., lii. 223).

Since the plantation of Ulster in 1609, several Ayrshire landowners had improved their shattered fortunes by acquiring lands in that province. These lands were procured on almost nominal terms, the recipients, or "undertakers," becoming bound to protect their estates from the native Irish, and to plant them with British operatives. It occurred to Sir William Alexander that his intended port of Largs might prove serviceable in shipping men and goods both to New Scotland and Ulster. He accordingly (on the 14th January 1627-8) accepted Irish citizenship, with a grant of a thousand acres in the county of Armagh. His grant included the lands of "Mullalelish, Ballyloghan, Ballyhinche, Ballylaney, Ballibreak, Mulladroy, Dromnehunchin, Dromard, Ballykedemore, Ballycagait, Durichele, Leggacony, and others" (Records of the Rolls, Ireland, vol. v., p. 107).

New Scotland proved a perpetual drain. By a royal letter, dated 28th December, Sir James Baillie, Marine Treasurer for Scotland, was empowered to receive, as for the king, prize-money on captured

vessels, and to convey the same to Sir William Alexander, till his claim for £6000 granted him by the Crown was fully liquidated. Sir James was further informed that Sir William had induced certain of his Majesty's subjects to increase the proportion of prize-money payable to the Crown; and he was called upon to induce others to pay proportionally (Reg. of Letters). To this missive, Sir James having made no response, he was, in a royal letter addressed to the Commissioners of Exchequer, dated 23d May 1628, charged with having applied to ordinary purposes the proceeds of the Lubeck ship, instead of employing them in liquidating the sum due to the Lieutenant of New Scotland. The Commissioners were instructed to cause Sir James to pay Sir William the balance of prize-money in his hand, with all penalties imposed under an Act of the Estates, passed in 1621. On behalf of the Commissioners and Sir James Baillie, Lord Napier, Treasurer-Depute, stated that various sums had been paid out of the Exchequer, which ought to have been defrayed by the English Treasury, and he demurred to further exactions. His letter was forwarded to the High Treasurer of England, who, on the 30th June 1628, was required to consult with Sir William Alexander, and thereafter to prepare a report. The treasurer summarily dismissed the application, and on the 11th July the Scottish Secretary intimated to the Commissioners of Exchequer that he had

been appointed one of their number (Reg. of Letters).

It seems probable that during his autumnal visit to Scotland, Sir William had unsuccessfully urged his claim, for, on the 7th November 1628, the following royal letter was transmitted to the Commissioners of Exchequer:

"(Charles R.)

"Right, &c. Whareas wee were formerlie pleased to assigne the payment of Sax Thousand punds Sterling, granted by our late deare Father to our trustie and weel-beloved counsellare, Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie, his airs and assignais, to be paid out of the benefit arysing to ws out of the Pryses, or concealed moneyis due by taxationis; heaving hard from you how convenient it wer that owr share of the Pryses, for the incres of our custumes, should be lett out with them, according to that overture made by John Peebles for farming of our custumes, tending soe much to the advancing of our realme, which we wish to be fordered; We ar pleased therewith: but withall, that the said Sir William be not disappointed of that which doeth rest vnto him vnpayed of the said grant; Oure pleasour is, that heaving hard from Sir James Bailyee that the said Sir William have resaved out of the said prises or otherwayis; that you caus our receavers or custumers intromet with the said part of the prises to our vse, after such maner as you shall think expedient; and that you give order, that the said Sir William, his airs and assignais, may be payd out of our rentis, custumes, and casualties, or conceilment foirsaids, of the said remainder; as likewayis in consideration of his long want of the samen of that part of the Pryse wines due vnto ws, which he should haif hade, bot was giuen for payment of the mariners: ffor doeing whairoff, & ffor securing him thareof in any maner you shall think it fitt, these presents shalbe vnto you a sufficient warrant.

"WHITHALL, *the* 7 *of November* 1628."

The Scottish Exchequer made no sign. The poet Robert Hayman, believing that the grant was paid, celebrated the supposed recipient in these terms:

"To the Right Honourable Knight, Sir William Alexander, Principall & Prime Planter in New-Scotland; To whom the King hath giuen a Royall gift to defray his great charges in that worthy busines.

"Great Alexander wept and made sad mone
Because there was but one World to be wonne;
It joyes my heart, when such wise men as you
Conquer new Worlds, which that Youth neuer knew.
The King of Kings assist, blesse you from Heauen,
For our King hath you wise assistance giuen;
Wisely our King did aide on you bestow,
Wise are all Kings who all their Gifts giue so.
'Tis giuen well, that is giuen to such a One
For seruice done, or seruice to be done;
By all that know you 'tis well vnderstood,
You will dispend it for your Countrie's good.
Old Scotland you made happy by your birth,
New Scotland you will make a happy earth."

"To the same Wise, Learned, Religious Patriot, and Most Excellent Poet.

"You are a Poet; better ther's not any,
You have one super-vertue 'mongst your many:
I wish I were your equall in the one,
And in the other your Companion.
With one I'd giue you your deserued due,
And with the other serue and follow you."

(R. Hayman's Quodlibets. Lond. 1628, book ii., p. 35).

In acquiring land, and projecting a shipping port on the coast of Ayrshire, Sir William Alexander had been much encouraged by James Stewart, fifth Lord Ochiltree, who, till recent embarrassments, had taken active part in the colonisation of Ulster. In the hope of retrieving his shattered fortune, Lord Ochiltree consented to join Sir William Alexander

the younger in his second expedition to New Scotland. In May 1629, Charles I. authorised £500 sterling to be borrowed for his lordship's use, "in his present expedition to Cape Bretton, for planting of a colony there" (Reg. of Letters). He sailed in June, and landed with his followers at Cape Breton (Colonial Papers, p. 106).

With considerable prosperity at home, and good prospects abroad, the Scottish Secretary proceeded to consolidate and enlarge his family estate. On the 30th July 1628, he obtained a charter from Archibald, Lord of Lorne, granting him and his spouse the lands and barony of Menstry, on an annual payment of £80 Scots (Reg. Mag. Sig., lii. 151). By a charter under the Great Seal, on the 31st July 1629 he received the lands and barony of Tullibody, adjoining the lands of Menstry on the south and east (Reg. Mag. Sig., lii. 222).

The creation of baronets was resumed. On the 2d May 1629, a commission was granted to the Earl of Menteith, President of the Council, and to Sir William Alexander the elder, and Sir Archibald Acheson, Under Secretary of State, to expede the passing of New Scotland patents. To induce persons of opulence to seek the new honours, the Commissioners were empowered to fill up the dates of patents at their discretion, so that those unwilling to occupy a lower place on the roll might be reckoned among the first creations. This expedient probably did not

answer, for a royal letter, dated 17th October, authorised the Privy Council to institute "a voluntary contribution" for transplanting to the colony members of the Highland clans. That letter is in these terms:

"(Charles R.)

"Right, &c. Whereas our trustie and weelbeloved Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie, hathe agreet with some of the heads of the Cheef Clannes of the Highlands of that our Kingdome, and with some other persones, for transporting themselues and thare followers, to setle themselues into New Scotland, as we doe very much approve of that course for advancing the said plantatione, and for debordening that our Kingdome of that race of people, which in former times hade bred soe many troubles ther: soe since that purpose may very much import the publick good and quiet thareof, Wee ar most willing that you assist the same, by all fair and laufull wayis: and becaus, as we are informed, divers are willing to contribute for thare dispatche by thare means, We require you to tak the best and most faire counsel heirin, that possiblie you can, that a voluntarie Contributione may be made for that purpose, in such maner as you shall think most fitt, and that you substitute any persones whom you shall think expedient for the managing and collectione thareof.—Giuen at Hamptoune Court, the 17 of October 1629" (Reg. of Letters).

No general contribution was sought for, while Captain Kertch reported from Port Royal, that without immediate supplies the existence of the colony was endangered. On the 17th November the king, through the instrumentality of his Principal Secretary for Scotland, urged "contractors for baronets" to proceed with their work diligently, "so that the next supplie" for New Scotland "may go out in

time." A royal letter concluded with the following promise:

"And for your better encouragement and more speedie repayment, whersoever any persone of qualitie fitt for the dignitie of Barronet hath any particulare favor to crave of ws, wee will and allow you, according to the severall charge that any of yow hath from ws, to require them first to accept of the said dignitie, according to the conditiones formerlie condiscendit vpon, with others which shall mak ws the more willing to gratifie them, ffor wee desire much to have that work brought to perfectione."

On the same day that "contractors for baronets" received the preceding missive, the Scottish Privy Council were addressed in the following despatch:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Whareas vpon good consideration, and for the better advancement of the plantatione of New Scotland, which may much import the good of our service, and the honor and benefitt of that our ancient kingdome, oure Royall Father did intend, and we since have erected the order and titill of Baronet in our said ancient Kingdome, which wee have since established and conferred the same vpon divers gentlemen of good qualitie; and seeing our trustie and weil-beloued Counsellor Sir Williame Alexander, Knight, our principall Secretarie of that our ancient kingdome of Scotland, and our Leivetennant of New Scotland, whoe these many yeirs byegone has been at greate charges for the discoverie thareof, hath now in end setled a Colonie thare, *whare his sone, Sir Williame, is now resident,* and wee being most willing to afford all possible means of encouragement that convenientlie wee can to the Barronettis of that our ancient kingdome, for the furtherance of soe good a wark, and to the effect they may be honored, and have place in all respectes according to their patents from ws, We have been pleased to authorise and allow, as be theis presents for ws and our successors we authorise and allow the said Leivetennant and Baron-

ettis, and everie one of them, and thare heires male, to weare and carry about their neckis, in all time coming, ane orange tauney silk ribbane, whairon shall hing pendant in a scutchion *argent* a saltoire *azeur*, thairon ane inscutcheune of the armes of Scotland, with ane imperiall croune above the scutchone, and incircled with this motto—FAX MENTIS HONESTAE GLORIA: which cognoissance oure said present Leivetennant shall deliver now to them from ws; that they may be the better knowen and distinguished from other persones: And that none pretend ignorance of the respect due vnto them, Oure pleasure therefore is, that by oppen proclamatione at the markett crosse of Edinburgh, and all other head borrows of our Kingdome, and such other places as you shall think necessarie, you caus intimat our Royall pleasor and intentione herin to all our subjectis. And if any persone, out of neglect or contempt, shall presume to tak place or precedence of the said barronettis, thare wifes or childring, which is due vnto them by their Patents, or to weare thare cognoissance, wee will that vpon notice thareof given to you, you can caus punish such offendars, by prisoning and fyning of them, as you shall think fitting, that others may be terrified from attempting the like: And We ordaine that from tyme to tyme, as occasione of granting and renewing thair Patents or thair heirs succeiding to the said dignitie, shall *offer*, That, the same poware to theme to carie the said ribbane and cognoissance, shalbe therein particularlie granted and inserted: And Wee likewayis ordaine these presents to be insert and registrat in the Books of our Counsell and Exchecq^{r}; and that you caus to remain *ad futuram rei memoriam;* and that all parties having entres may have authentick copies and extractes thareof: And for your soe doing, These oure lettres shalbe vnto you, and everie one of you from tyme to tyme, your sufficient warrant & discharge in that behalf.—Given at our Court of Whythall, the sevinteinthe of November 1629.

"To our Right Trustie, &c., the Viscount of Duppleine, our Chanceilor of Scotland, the Earle of Monteith, the President, and to the remanent Earles, Lords, and otheris of our Privie Counsell of our said Kingdome."

These were days of gewgaws. But the privilege of wearing an orange ribbon failed to attract those who were otherwise indifferent to the new honours. In a letter to the Privy Council, dated 26th November, the king intimated that he would advance to higher honours those who accepted present favours. The same missive contained a clause specially addressed to those who held heritable offices, warning them that only by aiding Sir William Alexander's colonial enterprise would they acquire a claim to have their privileges upheld or recognised. Two weeks later, Mr David Fullerton, Receiver of Crown Rents, was commanded to pay Sir William Alexander the balance of £6000 due him by the Exchequer (Register of Letters). There was no response.

On the 23d April 1629, a treaty of peace was concluded between France and England, in which it was provided that while prizes taken during the war should remain with the captors, whatever was seized on either side for two months after the signing of the peace, should be restored. Proceeding on these articles, Captain Daniel of Dieppe claimed for the Company of New France the country at Cape Breton, and on the 10th September dispossessed the settlers under Lord Ochiltree. Some of these were permitted to return to Britain, but Lord Ochiltree and seventeen others were detained in France. After being subjected to much harsh treatment, Lord Ochiltree was released on the interference of Sir Thomas Edwards,

the English ambassador (Colonial Papers, pp. 104-106). Liberated about the end of January 1629-30, he laid the following statement before the English Government:

"The King of France, by his commissione, doeth assure to himself all that part of America w^{ch} lyth, eleuatione from the fortie to the sixty degree, whereby he doeth incluid the River of Canada, all Acady, w^{ch} incluids all New Ingland and New Scotland, theas lying in lenthe by the sea coast some six hundrithe myllis.

"By this he assumis to himself the sole priuiledge and benefitt of fisching, at this tyme the cheef commerce of France, whereby in a few yeeris he wilbe able to nourrish ane seminary and nursery of saillers and seamen above ony king in the world. And in this land he hathe bothe the commerce as also the occasioun and means of building, or causing boold, what schips he pleasis, and al thayr furnitur, and the brauest harborys in the world, so that he may frame his schips of what burding he pleases. He intends, as Captain Danyell hes publickly confessit and professed, the supplantatioune of theas Colonyes of the Inglis in New Ingland, and the making pryss of all the Inglish schipps going thither: and to this effectt he goeth in ane schipp of the King of Frances this zeir, accompanied with two other smaller schipps, and two hundrethe men in euery of them.

"That the Kyng of Britane hath as guid right to theas lands as to England, I hoop the estate of England knowes it; and I know it can be instructed: and I know it is better then Ingland and Scotland, bothe in respect of the climat, the goodnes of y^{e} soylls, and riche contrie; iff it were peopled, w^{ch} is easy to the King of Great Britane to doe, hauing alreddy in theas parts aboue seuen thousand of his Ma^{ties} subjects.

"Captain Danyell is the whole projector of this to the State of France: he is to secound the Jesuits in this cours, he the agent & they the plotters: he is to part from Deep betwix an the tuenty of February with theas his thrie schipps. If he resaue nocht interruptioune in his courss this zeir, it will be with moir

difficulty and damage both heirafter; for he hathe professed, w^ch^ shalbe verified befor Captan Feuer and the Lo. Ocheltrie, that the King of France did mynd nothing by the peace with Ingland, bot to endur for two zeiris till he secured America, and peceably possessed himself therein."

Lord Ochiltree reckoned his losses at £20,000; he obtained no compensation, but, on the 24th of April 1639, was created a Baronet of New Scotland (Register of Letters, etc., p. 54).

When Sir William Alexander the younger arrived at Port Royal in the summer of 1629, he found that thirty of the Scottish colonists had perished from exposure. The prospects of the colony were otherwise satisfactory. The native Indians, entering into an alliance with the governor, selected Sagamore Segipt, one of their number, to proceed to England, to crave protection against the French. In December 1629, a royal letter was directed to Sir James Bagg, Governor of Plymouth, to conduct to court "one of the commanders of Canada, attended by some others of that countrie" (Royal Letters, etc., p. 52). Sagamore Segipt's appearance in London is, by the Rev. Joseph Mead, thus described in a letter, dated Christ College, 12th February 1630:

"There came last week to London the king, queen, and young prince of New Scotland, which is the west part of that tract which was in the patent which Sir Ferdinando Gorges had for New England, but he consented that Sir William Alexander, a Scot, should have a patent thereof from King James, anno 1621, but to be governed by the laws, and depend upon the king of

England. This king comes to be of our king's religion, and to submit his kingdom to him, and to become his homage for the same, that he may be protected against the French of Canada. Those savages arrived at Plymouth, were a while entertained at my Lord Poulet's in Somersetshire, much made of, especially my lady of the savage queen. She came with her to the coach, when they were to come to London, put a chain about her neck, with a diamond valued by some at near £20. The savages took all in good part, but for thanks or acknowledgment made no sign or expression at all" (Birch's Court and Times of Charles I. Lond. 1849, vol. ii., p. 60).

In the autumn of 1629, Claude de la Tour, the former Governor of Port Royal under the French, visited England. Introduced at court, he married, as his second wife, one of the queen's maids of honour. On the 30th November he received a patent as a baronet of New Scotland; and on the payment of a sum of money,* obtained from Sir William Alexander a grant of territory, extending from the sea inland thirty or forty miles, and reaching from the site of the present Yarmouth north-easterly to Lunenburgh, comprising the present counties of Shelburne and Queen's, and half the county of Lunenburgh (Slafter's Sir William Alexander). In accepting these lands, Sir Claude bound himself to become a good and faithful subject of the British sovereign. With two ships of war, he sailed for New Scotland in May 1630, and landed at Cape

* Sir John Scot of Scotstarvet alleges that "Sir William Alexander got a great sum of money from the King of France to quit his interest in Nova Scotia." The report may have arisen from his receiving a boon from Claude de la Tour (Scot's Staggering State. Edin. 1872).

Sable. To his son, Charles de Sainct Estienne, who commanded the French garrison at Cape Sable, he bore a patent of baronetcy, with a commission authorising his continuance in office, on his submitting to British rule. Indignant at an offer which implied treachery to his own government, Sainct Estienne rejected the proposal, and offered to defend the fort with his life. Returning to his ship, Sir Claude again affectionately entreated his son to surrender himself. Meeting a second refusal, Sir Claude landed his men. For two days he attacked the fort vigorously, but was compelled to return to his ship. Throwing himself on the clemency of his son, he and his wife received permission to reside in the neighbourhood, but were prohibited from entering the fort (Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 45).

Inspired by Cardinal de Richelieu, the government of France resolved not to abandon La Cadie to the Scottish settlers. Accordingly Monsieur de Chasteauneuf, the French ambassador, claimed, on the articles of April, an immediate surrender of the province of New Scotland. To the English government he, on the 1st February 1629-30, presented the following note:

"The Ambassador of France prays his Majesty of Great Britain that he may please to ordain and consent to what has been promised and granted by the Articles of the 23d April last, to Captain Querch (Kirk) and Sir William Alexander, and certain others, his subjects, who are resident, or shall hereafter reside, in New France; that they withdraw themselves

therefrom, and restore into the hands of those whom it may please the King his Master to send out, and who shall be bearers of his commission, all places and spots which they have occupied and inhabited since the last troubles, and, in particular, the fortress and settlement of Quebec, Coast of Cape Breton, and Port Royal, taken and occupied; to wit, the Fortress of Quebec by Captain Querch, and the Coasts of Cape Breton and Port Royal by Sir William Alexanders, the Scots noblemen, since the 23d April last. And that they restore them in the same condition as they found them, without dismantling the fortifications, or destroying the foundations of the houses; or carrying off any arms, munitions, merchandise, or chattels therefrom from such as were there at the time of the capture; and that they shall be bound to restore them, and make restitution of all the furs which they may have taken away since; together with the pinnace, commanded by the captain from Caen, which was conveyed to England; as also the ship named the Mary of St Jean de Luz. of seventy tons burthen, which was captured by the said Sir William Alexander, with whalebone from Cape Breton, and part of the crew brought here [by] Captain Pomerey."

Finding the king unwilling to prolong the rupture with his brother-in-law, the French monarch, Sir William Alexander sought to maintain his privileges by a different method. The following letter, from the Earl of Nithsdale to his agent, Mr Scott in Holborn, would indicate that, on Sir William's behalf, an attempt was made to induce the French ambassador to forego his claims:

"From my Chalmer in King's Streitt,
"*the* 19 *of March* 1630.

"[Wor]thie Freind,—I must agene ernestlie desyir you will [be s]peik the Ambassador, as I tould you, and deall with [him], that as he haith shonne him selfe a wyse man . . . hertile, that he wald behaue him selfe soe as he [mey] mack a fair

retreit; seeing I assure yow thar [is] nothing moir desyired wpon his part; whom the Ambassador seams to mistrust without caus; and [let] him consider what should be thoght of him if anie [ru]b should be procured be his cariage in that friendship between our maisters, soe much wished for be all that love thame. For the mater of Canada he will get contentment for that which [is] in the pouer of the Counsell of England; and for Sir William Alexander's part, I know thar is means eused be the man he fears, that the King mey giue satisfaction leykweyis; and I hope itt sall prevaill. Lett him, as I spoke, behave him selfe kyndlie to the man I taulld, for I assure you he is mistene. I persave thar is ryche gifts prepared for him, both from the King and Quein, at his perting, which I sall desyer may be to his honir, which I question nothing if he be nocht the hinder him selfe. So, this expecting yow will not faill, I rest, your freind to serve yow. NITHISDAILL."

(Fraser's Book of Carlaverock, vol ii., p. 119).

Notwithstanding the prospect of "rich gifts," Monsieur de Chasteauneuf held firmly to his purpose. On the subject of his note, Secretary Viscount Dorchester thus communicated with Sir Isaac Wake, the English ambassador at Paris, in a despatch of the 15th April:

"In only one point Monsieur de Chasteauneuf seemed to goe away ill satisfyed, that he could not obtayne a direct promise from his Maj^{ty} for y^{e} restoring of Port Royall, joyning to Canada, where some Scottishmen are planted, vnder the title of Nova Scotia. This Plantation was authorized by King James of happy memorie. . . . True it is, it was not begun till towards the end of y^{t} war with France, when some of his Maty^{s} subjects of that Kingdome went to Port Royall, and there seated themselves in a place where no French did inhabite, Mons^{r} de Chasteauneuf pretending (rather out of his oune discourse, as wee here conceive, then by commission) that all should be quitt

in state as it was before the warre, and by consequence those men withdrawne, hath pressed his Majesty earnestly for that purpose; and His Majesty, without refusing or granting, hath taken time to aduise of it, letting him know thus much, that unles he found reason as well before, as since the warre, to have that place free for his subjects' plantation, he would recall them; but in case he shall find the Plantation free for them in time of peace, the French will have no cause to pretend possession thereof, in regard of the warre, meanwhile Kebec (which is a strong fortified place in the River of Canada, which the English tooke), his Majesty is content should be restored, because the French were removed out of it by a strong hand; and whatsoever was taken from them in that Fort shall be restored likewise, whereby may appear the reality of His Majesty's proceedings; and thus I advertise your L^p^ for your information, not that it should be needfull for you to treate or negotiate in it, but to y^e^ end, that if it should be spoken of vpon Mon^sr^ de Chasteauneuf returne, you should not be ignorant how the businesse passed" (Colonial Papers, p. 113).

Notwithstanding the treaty of April, subsequent proceedings serve to show that the Government of Charles I. did not contemplate that the French should obtain possession of Port Royal. In a royal letter dated 13th May 1630, the king thanked Sir William Alexander the younger for his "carefull and provident proceeding for planting of a colonie at Port Royall," and desired him to continue as he had begun, that the work might be brought to perfection; he further charged him to appoint a deputy during his absence (Reg. of Letters). On the 3d July the governor was further informed of the king's desire to maintain the patents, while, in reference to French claims, information was sought as to how far the

settlers were desirous of retaining connection with the mother country. Of the same date the king informed the Convention of the Scottish Estates, that Sir William Alexander was appointed a royal commissioner, to consult with them on public affairs. For the entertainment of the commissioner, on his arrival in Scotland, the Earl Marischal was, by royal warrant dated Whitehall, 1st July 1630, commanded "to kill a brace of fat buckis."

It was needful first to satisfy the baronets of New Scotland that their titles were secure. For this purpose the commissioner requested the Convention to ratify their patents. This being done, he proceeded, on behalf of the baronets, to urge the importance of maintaining the settlement. At his recommendation the Convention agreed to petition the Crown to retain the colony (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., pp. 208, 223, 224). Their petition was accompanied by the following narrative, prepared by the commissioner:

"Immediately about the time that Columbus discouered the Isle of Cuba, Sebastian Chabot, set out from England by Henrie the Seventh, did first discouer the continent of America, beginning at Newfoundland, and thereafter going to the Gulph of Canada, and from thence having seen Cape Bretton, all along the coast to Florida: By which discouery his Mat^ie hath the title to Virginia, New England, and New Scotland, as being then first discouered by Chabot, at the charge of the King of England.

"The French after this, neglecting the knowledge they had thereafter by Jaques Cartier, of the River of Canada as a cold climat, or, as it may bee, in regard it was challenged as first

discovered by the English, hauing a great desire to possesse themselves in some part of America, they planted first a Colony under the charge of Mons^r^ Villegagnon in Brasill, and another vnder the charge of Mons^r^ Landoñiere in Florida, from both of which they were expelled by the Spaniards.

"Then giving ouer all hope of attempting anything that was belonging to the Spaniards, and pressing by all meanes to haue some interest in America, notwithstanding that the English (though they were not able to possesse the whole at first) had possessed themselves of that Continent, discouered by them, by a Colonie in the South part thereof, now called Virginia, and by another in the north part thereof, now called New England and New Scotland, planted by Justice Popham. The French, in the time of Henry the Fourth, under the charge of Mons^r^ Poutrincourt, hauing seene all the coasts of New England and New Scotland, to both which parts they did then beginne to claim right; They seated themselves in Port Royall, out of which, as soon as it was made known to the English, they were displanted by Sir Samuel Argall, as hauing wrongfully intruded themselves within those bounds that did belong to this Crowne, both by discouery and possession.

"The remainder of this French Collony, not hauing occasion to be transported to France, stayed in the contrie. Yet they were neglected by the State not owning them any more, and hardly supplied in that which was necessary for them, by volontary aduenturers, who came to trade, in hope of their comodities, in exchange of what they bought: And during the time of King James there was no complaynt made vpon S Samuel Argall for hauing displanted them, and they were now lately glad to demand that protection from his Mat^ie^, which was not afforded them from any other. Whereby it may euidentlye appear that his Mat^ies^ title was thought good; otherwise it is likelie the French King, if any wrong had been done vnto him, would haue sought to haue the same repaired, either by treatie or otherwise. But without making either any priuat complaynt, or yet doing any Publick Act against the same, They went next and seated themselves vpon the North side of the River of Canada at

Kibeck, a place whereunto the English, by a preceding title, might likewise have claimed right: But small notice was taken thereof, till, during the time of the late Warre, a Commission was given by his Ma^tie^ to remove them from thence, which was accordingly performed; the place being taken a little after the peace was concluded, which, at that time, had not come to the taker's knowledge; and a Colonie of Scottish was planted at Port Royall, which had never beene repossessed nor claimed by the French, since they were first removed from the same.

"This businesse of Port Royall cannot be made lyable to the Articles of the Peace, seeing there was no act of hostilitie comitted therebye; a Collony onely beeing planted vpon his Mat^ies^ owne ground, according to a Patent granted by his Mat^ies^ late deare father and Mat^ies^ selfe, hauing as good a right thereto as to any part of that Continent: and both the patent and the possession taken thereupon was in the time of his Mat^ies^ late deare Father, as is set down at length in the Voyages written by Purchas. But neither by that possession, nor be the subsequent plantatioun, hath anything been taken from the French, whereof they had any right at all, or yet any possession for the time; and what might haue beene done, either before the warre or since the warre, without a breach of peace, cannot justly bee complained vpon for beeing done at that time.

"After that the Scottish Colonie was planted at Port Royall, they, and the French who dwelled there, hauing met with the Commanders of the Natives, called by them Sagamoes, did make choice of one of the Cheefe of them, called Sagamo Segipt, to come, in name of the rest, to his Mat^ie^ for acknowledging of his title, and to become his Mat^ies^ subjects, crauing only to be protected by his Mat^ie^ against their enemies: which demand of his was accepted by his Mat^ie^, who did promise to protect them, as he reported to the rest at his returne.

"Mons^r^ La Tour, who was cheif command^r^ of the few French then in that Countrie, beeing neglected (as is sayd) by his own Countriemen, and finding his Mat^ies^ title not so much as questioned, after their beeing expelled from Port Royall, and the coming in of the Scottish necessary for his security, did, along

with the same Sagamo, offring and demanding the like, in the name of the French who liue there: so that his Mat^ie hath a good right to New Scotland, by discouery, by possession of his Mat^ies subjects, by removing of the French, who had seated themselves at Port Royall, and by Mons^r La Tour, Command^r of them there, his turning Tenant, & by the volontarie hauing tenents of the rest to his Mat^ie, and that no obstacle might remaine, the very sauages, by their Commissioner, willingly offring their obedience vnto his Mat^ie; so that his Mat^ie now is bound in honour to maintaine them, both in regard of his subjects that haue planted there vpon his warrant, and of the promises that he made to the Commissioner of the Natives that came to him from them, as he promised to the Commissioner of the Natiues; And as all the subjects of his Mat^ies ancient Kingdome of Scotland did humbly entreat at their last Conuention, as may appeare by a letter to his Ma^tie from his Counsel to that effect" (Colonial Papers, p. 119).

When the Scottish Privy Council met to sanction the transmission of the documents, the commissioner announced that, on the 4th September, the king had elevated him to the state and dignity of Viscount of Stirling and Lord Alexander of Tullibody. Then followed an intimation that his Majesty had constituted him Master of Requests for Scotland, with a salary from the Exchequer of £200 sterling. The council received the warrant, but gave no sanction that it should pass the seals. On the 16th December his Majesty informed them that he had "filled up the grant with his own hand," and commanded that it should be "expede the seal," and that the salary should be duly paid (Reg. of Letters).

During his Scottish visit, Lord Stirling sold, for

£12,000 Scots, the lands and port of Largs, to Sir Thomas Boyd of Bonshaw, John Boill of Kilburn, John Brisbane of Bishoptown, and Robert Boyd of Tourgill, and others (Reg. of Deeds, vol. xlvi.).

The Scottish colonists at Port Royal, under the command of Sir William Alexander the younger, built a fort on the west side of the haven (Granville), nearly opposite to Goat Island, the remains of which are still visible. There they were joined by Sir Claude de la Tour, who retained his allegiance to the British Crown (Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 45).

Leaving Sir George Home in charge of Port Royal, Sir William Alexander the younger in the autumn of 1630 returned to Britain. On the 26th February 1630-1, he, along with Captain Kertch and others, described as "adventurers in the company of Canada," presented a memorial to the English Admiralty, praying that the masters of "The Whale," and other ships of the port of London, might be restrained from proceeding to Canadian ports. By the advice of Lord Dorchester the prayer was granted (Reg. of Letters). On the 19th April a royal warrant was issued to Lord Ochiltree, Sir Peirce Corsbie, and Sir Archibald Acheson, Baronets, and Sir Walter Crosbie, Knight, empowering them to plant a colony "nearer unto the River of Canada" (Reg. of Letters). On the 29th April the Scottish Privy Council were assured by royal letter that the plantation of New Scotland was still an object of solicitude, and they were invited to

nominate members of their body to assist in the enterprise. On the 5th May followed another missive, intimating that the king was prepared to grant baronetcies to those aiding the new colony, commissioners being specially appointed to receive from Lord Stirling resignations of land in New Scotland, and to grant infeftment in the same (Reg. of Letters). Within two months Port Royal was finally ceded to the French.

CHAPTER V.

MEMOIR OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, VISCOUNT STIRLING —FROM THE ABANDONMENT OF PORT ROYAL TO THE COINING OF THE COPPER MONEY.

On the 10th July 1631, Lord Stirling was charged to abandon Port Royal in the following missive:

"(Charles R.)

"Right, &c. Wheras ther is a finall agreement made betwixt ws and our good brother, the French king, and that, amongst other particulariteis for perfecting heirof, we have condescended that Port Royall shalbe putt in the estate it was befor the beginning of the late warre, that no pairtie may haue any advantage ther dureing the continuance of the same, & without derogation to any preceiding right or title be vertew of any thing done, other then, or to be done, by the doeing of that which we command at this tyme: It is our will and pleasur, and we command yow heirby, that, with all possible diligence, yow give ordour to Sir George Home, Knycht, or any vther haveing charge from yow ther, to demolisch the Fort which was builded by your Sone ther, and to remove all the people, goods, ordinance, munition, cattel, and vther things belonging vnto that Colonie, leaveing the boundis altogidder waist and unpeopled as it was at the tyme when your said Sone landed first to plant ther, by vertew of our Commission, and this yow faill not to doe, as yow wilbe answerable vnto ws.

"Greenwich, 10 *July* 1631."

A vacillating policy supervened. On the 12th July,

two days after Lord Stirling had been charged to remove his colony from Port Royal, and to destroy the fort, the Scottish Privy Council were assured by the king that he was resolved to maintain the colony. The royal letter to the Council proceeds thus :

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right trustie and right weil-belovit Cousine & Counsellour, &c. Seeing we have sene by a letter from yow the Ordour of Barronets, erected by our late deare Father and ws for furthering the plantation of New Scotland, was approved by the whole Estats of our Kingdome at the last Convention; And that we vnderstand both by ther reports that came from thence, and by the sensible consideration & notice taken therof by our nyghbour cuntreyis, how well that work is begun, Our right trustie and weil-belovit Counsellour, Sir William Alexander, our Leivtennent ther, haueing fully performed what was expected from him, for the benefite which was intendit for him by these Barronets, being very desyreous that he should not suffer therin, bot that both he & others may be encouraged to prosecute the good beginning that is made, as we hartelie thank all such as hathe contribute ther ayde by contracting with him for advanceing of the saide work alreadie: Our pleasur is, that yow seriouslie consider, either amongst yow all, or by a Committie of such as ar best affectionat towards that work, how it may be best brought to perfection; for we ar so far (whatever controversie be about it) from quyting our title to New Scotland & Canada, that we wilbe verie carefull to manteane all our good subjects who doe plant themselffis there, and lett none of the Barronets any way be prejudged in the honour & privileges conteynit in ther Patents, by punisching all that dare to presume to wrong them therin, that others may be encouraged to tak the lyk course, as the more acceptable vnto ws, and the nearer to a title of Nobilitie, whervnto that of Barronet is the next degrie; and if the said Sir William, as our Livetennent of New Scotland, shall convene

the Barronets to consult togidder concerneing the Plantation, we herby authorise him, and will yow to authorise him as far as is requisit for that effect, willing that Proclamatioun be made of what we have signifeid, or of what yow shall determine for furthering that work, wherof we recommend the care to yow, as a matter importing speciallie our honor and the good of that our Ancient Kingdome.—From our Mannour at Greenwiche, the twelfe day of Julij 1631."

As commanded by his Majesty, the Privy Council issued a proclamation assuring his Majesty's loyal subjects, more especially the baronets, that "so farre from quitting his title to New Scotland and Canada," his Majesty "will be verie carefull to maintean all his good subjects who doe plant thameselfis there." This proclamation was issued from Holyroodhouse on the 28th July, and on the same day two other manifestoes on the same subject were despatched from the palace of Greenwich. The first, a Latin document, entitled "Pro Rege Gallorum," is of the following purport:

"Charles, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, and Defender of the Faith, &c., to all whom these presents may concern, greeting. Since we have judged it good and right and just, that now at length peace and amity being recently concluded between us and the most Christian King, our very dear brother, should resume their former influence and sway; and so that all controversies and difficulties which hitherto, from time to time, have divided our kingdoms and subjects, being now made up and concluded, should, by a mutual reconciliation, be abolished and put wholly aside by both parties, To which end, we, among other conditions offered on our part, do agree to make evacuation of the fortalice or castle and settle-

ment of the Royal Port, commonly known as *Port Royal*, in New Scotland, which, during the height of the late war, by virtue of a warrant or commission under the seal of the King of Scotland, had been captured and occupied as a place already abandoned; and that, moreover, without any prejudice to the right or title of us, or our subjects, in time to come, We, offering the guarantee of our royal word and promise in this matter against reasons or objections to be brought forward or urged against it whatever, by these presents do declare, and on the faith of our royal word, promise that we will undertake, cause, and effect, that, by our subjects dwelling in the said fortalice or castle and settlement of the Royal Haven, commonly called *Port Royal*, whether they reside or dwell there as soldiers of the garrison or colonists or inhabitants, the said fortalice or castle and settlement of Port Royal shall be forthwith abandoned and relinquished, and also all their weapons, machines, provisions, cattle, goods, and chattels therefrom transported, immediately and as soon as letters declaring this our will and decree shall be shown and read unto them by deputies or commissioners, who shall bring the same from the most Christian King our brother; opportunity being given of sending thither and returning thence: In witness whereof we will to sign and confirm these our letters by our own hand, and the Great Seal of our Kingdom of Scotland.—Given from our Palace of Greenwich, the 28 day of the month of July, A.D. 1631, and of our reign the seventh" (Reg. of Letters).

The second document in connection with New Scotland affairs, issued from Greenwich on the 28th July, was addressed to the Scottish Privy Council. The Council was informed that the Earl of Haddington and twelve others were appointed commissioners, "for the better furtherance and advancement of the plantation of New Scotland" (Reg. of Letters). Negotiations continued till, by the treaty of St Ger-

main-en-laye, subscribed on the 29th March 1632, the entire territory of New Scotland was formally ceded to the French. The third article of the treaty proceeded thus:

"On the part of his Majesty the King of Great Britain, the said Lord Ambassador, in virtue of the power he has, which will be inserted at the end of these presents, has promised, and promises, for and in the name of his said Majesty, to give up and restore all the places occupied in New France, Acadia, and Canada by subjects of his Majesty the King of Great Britain; and to cause all such to withdraw from the said places. And to this end, the said Lord Ambassador will deliver, after the confirmation and signature of these presents, to the Commissioners of the most Christian King, in due form, the power which he holds from his Majesty the King of Great Britain, for the restoration of the said places, together with the commands of his said Majesty to all who hold command in Port Royal, Fort Quebec, and Cape Breton; that the settlements and forts aforesaid be surrendered and restored unto the hands of such as it shall please his most Christian Majesty to order," etc.

In consideration of his further loss by the surrender of the colony, Lord Stirling had his grant of £6000 increased to £10,000, a royal warrant for payment of the larger sum being directed to the Exchequer. That warrant was accompanied by the following royal letter, directed to the Privy Council:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, etc. Wheras we send heirwith inclosed vnto yow a Signature of Ten Thowsand Pund sterling in favours of our right, &c., the Lord Viscount of Stirling, to be past and exped by yow vnder our great Seall; least any mistaking should ensue ther vpon, we have thought it good to declare vnto yow, that (as it may appear by itselff) it is nowayes for quyting the title, ryght,

or possession of New Scotland, or of any part therof, bot onlie for the satisfaction of the losses that the said Viscount hath by giveing ordour for removeing of his Colony at our express command for performeing of ane Article of the Treatie betwixt the French and ws, and We are so far from abandoneing of that business as We doe heirbye reqyre yow and everie one of yow to affoord your best help and encouragement for furthering of the same, cheiflie in perswading such to be Baronets as are in qualitie fitt for that dignitie, and come befor yow to seek for favour from ws: but remitting the maner to your own judgment, and expecting your best endeavours herein: willing thir presents to be insert in your books of Excheker, and ane Act made thervpon, We bid, &c.

"WHYTHALL, 19 *Feb*^{y} 1632."

Though the colony of New Scotland had been wholly surrendered, and a sum awarded to the ex lieutenant as compensation, King Charles persisted in assuring his Scottish subjects that the colony *would be maintained.* In the following letter to the Privy Council, dated 14th June 1632, he makes this assurance *in verbo principis:*

"(Charles R.)

"Trustie, &c. Wheras vpon the late Treatie betwixt ws and the French King, we wer pleased to condescend, that the Colonie which was latelie planted at Port Royall, in New Scotland, should be for the present removed from thence; and have accordinglie gevin ordour to our right, &c., the Viscount of Stirling, our principall Secretarie for Scotland, altho', by all our severall ordours and directions concerneing that busines, we have ever expressed that we have no intention to quyt our right title to anie of these boundis; yet, in regard our meaneing perchance will not be sufficientlie vnderstude by these our loveing subjects, who heirefter shall intend the advancement of that work; ffor ther further satisfaction heirin, we doe heirby requyr

yow to draw vp a sufficient warrant for our hand to pas vnder our great Seall, to our said Right, &c., the Viscount of Stirling to goe on in the said work whensoever he shall think fitting, wherby, for the encouragement of such as shall interest themselffis with him in it, he may have full assurance from ws, *in verbo principis*, that as we have never meaned to relinquish our title to any part of these cuntreyis which he hath by patents from ws, so we shall ever heirefter be readie, by our gracious favour, to protect him, and all such as have or shall heirefter at aney tyme concurre with him, for the advancement of the plantatiouns in these boundis foirsaidis; And if at aney tyme heirefter, by ordour from ws, they shalbe forced to remove from the saidis boundis, or aney part therof wher they shall happin to be planted, we shall fully satisfie them for all loss they shall susteane by aney such act or ordour from ws. And for your soe doeing, &c.

"GREENWICH, 14 *Junij* 1632."

On the 16th June, Sir William Alexander submitted to the king the following note:

"*A Minute of some points considerable for his Majesties service in regard of the French their possessing of New Scotland at this time.*

"The possessing of it by the French immediatelie vpon the late Treatie, though it bee not warranted by the Treatie, if some speidie acte do not disproue it, will be held to be authorised by it.

"The French pretend title to Virginia & New England, as may appeare by their patent graunted to the Canada Companie of all Noua Francia from Florida to the North Pole, To be found in *Mercure Françoise*, anno 1627, which tytle may hereafter proue dangerous for his Ma^ties^ subjects in these pairts, if the French become stronge in New Scotland.

"It is evident that the French haue a designe more than ordinarie herein, for besides their plantacion in Canada, for the which there is a reason apparent in the benefite of trade, they

haue this yeare sent 300 men to New Scotland, where no present benefite can possiblie redound to them in proportioun to the charge they are at, and are the next yeare, as I am crediblie informed, to sett out ten shippes with planters, those that are interested in it haueing bound themselues to a yearlie supplie of a great nomber of planters, which is a certane proofe of some end greater then aney persons expectation of proffeit can encourage them into.

"This their future expectation, in my judgement, most consist in the use of wood, for building of shippes, and for haueing all materials requisite for shipping, such as pitch, tarr, and roset, which are there in abundance; yron oare hath been lykeways formerlie discouered by the French themselues.

"The building of shippes there, and the imployment of them in fishing, which aboundes vpon that coast, especiallie Salt, being to be made by the Sunne as in France, lykelie to tend infinitelie to the iner case of shipping and of mariners, which apparentlie is the designe of the French: besides, that if the French doe once in a public and generall way enter to fish on that coast, it cannot but vndo the English trade, that is, by fisheinge, since the French haue Salt at an easier rate than the English, but more if they make salt in the countrie, which I am confident they may doe.

"If his Ma^tie^ shalbe pleased to appoint some whom he shall thinke fitt for considering these things, and the like that may be proponed, there may perchance some thing be found expedient to be done either now or hereafter tending to the advancement of his Ma^ties^ service in these pairts abroad.

"These are only in all humble duty, without any privat end, to expresse what in the small experience I haue particularlie had herein, I can conceaue may concerne the publick good" (Colonial Papers, p. 152).

Vacillation continued. On the 12th July, a royal warrant was addressed to Sir William Alexander, Robert Charlton, and William Barkly, "commissioners for the gulf and river of Canada," charging

them forthwith to restore to the French the fort and habitation of Kebeck (Quebec), consequent on the recent arrangement with the French king (Reg. of Letters). Yet on the 15th August, Sir William was despatched to Scotland with the following missive to the Privy Council:

"(Charles R.)

"Trustie, &c. Wheras our late deare father, out of his pious zeall for the advancement of religion in the remote parts of his dominions, wher it had not bene formerlie knowen, and out of his royall care for the honour and well of that our ancient Kingdome, was pleased to annex to the Crown therof the dominion of New Scotland in America, that the vse of it might aryse to the benefite of that Kingdome, we being desyreous that the wished effects might follow by the continuance of so noble a designe, wer pleased to confer particular marks of our favour vpon suche as should voluntarlie contribute to the furtherance of a plantation to be establisched in these boundis, as appeared by our erecting of that order of baronetts, wherewith yow ar dignifeid, wherunto we have ever since bene willing to add what further we conceaved to be necessarie for the testifeying our respect to these that ar alreadie interested, and for encourageing of them who shall heirefter interest themselffis in the advancement of a work which we so reallie tender for the Glorie of God, the honour of that nation, and the benefite that is lyklie to flow from the right prosecution of it. But in regard that notwithstanding the care and diligence of our Right, &c., the Viscount of Stirling, whom we have from the beginning entrusted with the prosecution of this work, and of the great charges alreadie bestowed vpon it, hath not takin the root which was expected, partlie, as we conceave, by reasone of the incommoditeis ordinarlie incident to all new and remote beginnings, and partlie, as we are informed, by want of the tymelie concurrance of a sufficient number to insist in it; bot especiallie the Colonie being forced of late to remove for a tyme by meanes

of a Treatie we have had with the French: Thairfor, We have takin into our royall consideratioun by what meanes agane may this work be establischeḍ; and conceaving that there ar none of our subjects whom it concerneth so much in credit to be affectioned to the progres of it as these of your number for justefieing the groundis of our princelie favours, which yow have receaved by a most honorabill and generous way, we haue thoght fitt to direct the bearer heirof, Sir William Alexander, Kny^t^, vnto yow, who hath been ane actor in the former proceidingis, and hath sene the cuntrie, and knowen the commoditeis therof, who will communicat vnto yow such propositions as may best serve for making the right vse heirefter of a plantation & trade in these boundis for encouraging such as shall adventure therein. And we doubt not bot if yow find the groundis reasonable and fair, you will give your concurrance for the further prosecution of them. And as We have alreadie gevin ordour to our Advocat for drawing such warrands to pass under our sealls ther, wherby our loveing subjects may be fred from all misconstruction of our proceidingis with the French anent New Scotland, and secured of our protection in tyme cuming in ther vndertakeris vnto it, so we shalbe ready to contribute what we shall heirefter find we may justlie doe for the advancement of the work, and the encouragement of all that shall joyne with yow to that purpois. Which recommending vnto your care, we bid you farewell.

"BEAWLIE, 15 *August* 1632" (Reg. of Letters).

Whether, on the royal assurance that New Scotland was to be maintained as a British colony, or irrespective of benefits arising from grants of land in transatlantic regions, patents of baronetcy continued to be sought for. Six baronets were created in 1629, and thirteen persons accepted the new honours in the two following years.

Unable to effect a settlement on the land, Lord Stirling joined a cause whereby he obtained an

occupancy of the ocean. A joint-stock company for conducting the business of fishing on the west coast of Scotland, with headquarters in the isle of Lewis, was established in 1629. The company employed two hundred vessels varying from thirty to fifty tons burden, and conducted a considerable trade. With the company Lord Stirling became acquainted consequent on being, in 1632 and previously, defender in an action raised against him by certain citizens of Lubeck, respecting a vessel belonging to them captured on the Scottish coast, and which had been assigned him as a prize by the Commissioners of Marine (Reg. of Letters). Offering his services to the company, he obtained for them letters patent, and was named one of the twelve members of council (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., p. 239). At his suggestion the king issued in the interests of the company a proclamation restraining the killing, dressing, and eating flesh in Lent, or on fish days appointed by law (Rymer's Fœdera, 1626, vol. xviii., fol. 822). But the company experienced an embarrassing opposition from the islanders and others, and though its affairs were conducted with energy, they did not prosper (Slafter's Sir William Alexander, pp. 93, 94).

In the midst of his public avocations Lord Stirling found some leisure for literary pursuits. Subsequent to the death of the poet Drayton, which took place on the 23d December 1631, he received from William Drummond of Hawthornden the following letter:

"The death of M. D., your great freind, hath beene very greeuous to all those which loue the Muses heere; cheeflie that hee should haue left this world before he had perfected the Northern part of his Polyolbion: that it brake off that noble worke, of the Northern part of the Polyolbion which had beene no litle honour to our Country. All wee can doe to him is to honour his Memorye. If your L. can get those fragments, remaines, of his Worke which concerne Scotland, wee shall endeauour to put them in this Country to the presse, with a dedication, if it shall be thoght expedient, to your L., with the best remembrances his loue to this Country did deserue. Of all the good race of Poets who wrot in the tyme of Queen Elizabeth, your L. now alone remaines.

"Daniel, Syluester, King James, Done (Donne), and now Drayton, who, besides his loue and kindlye obseruance of your L., hath made twice honourable mention in his Workes of your L., long since in his Odes, and latelie in Elegies, 1627:

> "'So Scotland sent us hither for our owen
> That man whose name I euer would haue knowen,
> To stand by myne, that most ingenious Knight,
> My ALEXANDER, to whom in his right
> I want extreamlie; yet in speaking thus
> I doe just show the loue that was twixt vs,
> And not his numbers, that wer braue and hie,
> So like his Mind was his cleare Poesie.'

"If the date of a Picture of his be just, he hath liued three score and eight yeeres, but shall liue by all likelihead so long as men speake English after his death. I, who neuer saw him, saue by his letters and poesie, scarce beleive hee is yet dead; and would fain misbelieue veritye, if it were possible.

"The Town of Eden[burgh] bussie themselves verye much for the erecting of pageants for the King's M. Entrie. Some haue written to us from Court, notwithstanding of his Highnesse good intention to receaue his Crown in Scotland, it is impossible this yeere hee can see vs, considering the great effaires of Germanye. Now I have continewed my letter too long, considering the many other papers your L. hath to read.—From your L. most

affectionat Seruant, W. D[rummond]" (Hawthornden MSS. Adv. Library).

The coronation of Charles I. at Edinburgh, to which Drummond refers, was postponed till the following year. In his "Epigrammata," published in 1632, Arthur Johnston, the Latin poet, celebrated Lord Stirling in the following epigram.

"Confer Alexandros : Macedo victricibus armis,
Magnus erat, Scotus carmine, major uter." *

At the close of 1627 he completed his metrical translation of the Psalms, which, with the approbation of Charles I., was to be styled King James' version. On the 28th December 1627, the Attorney-General was authorised to grant him the sole right of publishing the new version by the following warrant :

"Trustie, &c. Whereas our late most deere & Royall Father, King James, of blessed memorie, did, in his lifetime, translate the Psalmes of David in meeter, which Psalmes soe translated, our pleasoure is, shalbe imprinted and published, the Psalmes of David, translated by King James ; and our farther pleasure, that our trustie and welbeloved S^r^ William Alexander, our Secretarie of State for o^r^ Realme of Scotland, and his assignes, shall have licence for the sole imprinting, selling, & disposing of the same, within o^r^ realmes of England & Ireland, & dominion of Wales, for xxi. years, notwithstanding any law or statut to the contrarie, Together with such priveleges, clauses, and benefittes, as in such grantes are usuell, and as to you shalbe thought fitt, and that noe other person or persons, during the said term of one and twentie years, without licence or consent

* "Compare the Alexanders. The Macedonian by his conquering arms was great, the Scot by his poetic gifts : which of the two is greater ?"

of o^{r} said servant or his assignois, shall imprint, sell, or dispose of the samine within our said realme of England and Ireland, & the dominion of Wales. These are therefore to require you, calling unto you, Richard Hadfore, Esq^{r}., one of o^{r} learned Counsell for o^{r} affairs for our said kingdom of Ireland, to prepare a bill fitt for o^{r} signature accordinglie, for which this shall be your warrant.

"WHITEHALL, *the 28th December* 1627.

"To our trustie & welbeloved Sir Robert Hath, Knight, our Attorney-Generall."

Archbishop Spotswood of St Andrews and his clergy were required to certify the suitableness of the new version in the following despatch:

"TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST ANDROIS.

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Having caused peruse the translation of the Psalmes (whareof o^{r} late dere Father was author) by learned divines, whoe found it to be exectlie & treulie done, and intending to be allowed to be sung in all the churches of this o^{r} kingdom, Before wee proceed tharein, in that o^{r} kingdom, wee have sent you a copie thareof, to be perused by you, or by such as shall have directioun from you to that effect. It is our plesour if you find the said work to be weel don, and worthie to be sung in churches, That you, with advice of y^{r} bretherin, haveing dewlie considered of the same, give order how it may be most convenientlie don, which, recommending unto your care, as a purpose specially concerning us," etc. (Reg. of Letters).

Like the English bishops, the primate of the Scottish Church kept silence. But the publication of the Psalm-book had been fully determined on. Before Midsummer 1631 it was issued in the two forms of octavo and duodecimo from the press of William

Turner, printer to the University of Oxford. The title-page was inscribed: "The Psalmes of King David, translated by King James." Fronting the title-page was the following warrant:

"(CHARLES R).

"Haueing caused this Translation of the Psalmes (whereof oure late deare Father was Author) to be perused, and it being found to be exactly and truely done, wee doe hereby authorize the same to be imprinted, according to the Patent graunted thereupon, and doe allow them to be song in all the Churches of oure Dominiones, recommending them to all oure goode Subjects for that effect."

By a royal letter, dated 14th June, the English bishops were commanded to introduce the new version into all the schools under their control (Reg. of Letters).

Contemporaneously with the publication of the Psalm-book, Lord Stirling obtained another privilege, which also promised emolument. On his recommendation the Scottish Privy Council petitioned the king to issue a small copper coin for the convenience of the common people. Accordingly, his Majesty, on the 30th June 1631, gave commission to "Nicholas Briot, chief graver to the English Mint, to prepare dies and other instruments necessary for coining copper farthings, and to send them under direction of Viscount Stirling to the Mint at Edinburgh, and also to repair thither personally to establish and superintend the works" (Reg. of Letters). Briot was the most expert coin-engraver of the period.

Originally connected with the French Mint, he left it in 1628, and repairing to England, was appointed to his important office. He was the first artist who exhibited in Britain a coin carved with letters upon the edge (Slafter's Copper Coinage).

On the 10th of July Charles directed the Treasurer of Scotland to pay Lord Stirling the royalty on the copper coinage. The precept is in these words:

"(CHARLES R.)

"In regard to the good and faythfull service done vnto ws by Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie, it is Our pleasur that yow delvyer vnto him for his vse all and whole the moneyis that doe or shall belong vnto ws (as feyis justlie due being defrayed), for our share by the coyneing of the farthing tokens, or of any such copper coyne as yow shall think fitt to be coyned, by vertew of our warrant that yow think necessarie heirin; ffor doeing wherof, in delyvering the same to him, by vertew of this warrant, or of drawing vp of another, these ar to secure yow as a sufficient discharge and warrant.

"GREENWICH, 10 *July* 1631."

The original scheme being unproductive, the king on the 13th December informed the Privy Council that he had abandoned the project of issuing farthings, and desired that coins of three different denominations should be issued in their stead. The royal letter is in these terms:

"Right, &c. Wheras vpon our pleasur formerlie signifeid vnto yow, tuitching the Copper Coyne, yow gave ordour for coyneing of fyftene hundreth stone wecht of Copper vnto farthing tokens of the lyk weght and value as thay ar current in this Kingdome, being now informed by our right, &c., the Viscount of Stirling, our principall Secretarie ther, that diverse of our

loveing subjects conceave the division of the penny sterling formerlie vsed to be more convenient for exchange and reckonyng then the new division into four farthings, and that (for avoyding the danger of counterfitting, and for the more exactnesse of the impression) it is thoght fitt to mak the copper money of a greater proportion of weght, Our pleasur is that the said quantitie of Copper be coyned in severall spaces of penny, two penny and four penny peices, and that a fyftene part therof be coyned vnto pennyis weying eight granes the peice (being the weght formerlie allowed by yow to the farthings), and the remanent quantitie be equall devision into two and four penny peices of proportionable weght to the penny, causing distinguish them be ther bearing on the one syd the figure or number of their value under an Imperiall Croun with our Inscription, and on the vther the Thistle with the vsual Motto, and that ther be made of the said thrie peices the said quantitie of Copper so ordeaned by yow to have been coyned in farthings, with what addition yow shall now or heirefter think fitt in regard of the alteration of the weght of the peices, and as the necessitie of the countree shall requyre, Which Coyne we will to have course amongst our subjects for the vse of the poore, and change of small commoditeis without any other imposition in the payment of great sowmes then hath bene formerlie accustomed in the Copper Coyne of that our kingdome, or shall from tyme to tyme seme expedient unto yow. And in regard of the necessitie of a speedie returne hither for occasion concerneing our service of Nicolas Bryot, our cheif graver of our Mynt heir, whom we directit thither for coyneing these moneyis, We speciallie recommend unto yow that no farder delay be made in putting that work to perfection.

"WHYTHALL, 13 *December* 1631."

The result of this new arrangement we shall learn subsequently.

During the months of autumn, Lord Stirling usually resided at Menstry. His personal expenses in Scot-

land were latterly defrayed by the Exchequer. As commissioner to the Convention of the Estates, the treasurer-depute was, on the 28th July 1631, required to defray the expenses of his visit to Scotland during that year and the preceding. The king also commanded that his expenses in Scotland should be paid so long as he was engaged in the public service (Reg. of Letters).

Created a peer, Lord Stirling sought to vindicate his rank by obtaining a grant of arms. His immediate progenitors were feudatories of the noble House of Argyle, but he was sprung from the clan MacAlexander in Kintyre. To his residence at Menstry he invited Archibald Alexander of Tarbert, chief of the clan. They were together elected burgesses of Stirling on the 10th August 1631 (Stirling Burgh Records). Before separating, the representative of the clan MacAlexander surrendered his birthright, accepting Lord Stirling as his chief. This effected, Sir James Balfour, Lyon King of Arms, was, in a royal letter, dated Newmarket, 15th March 1632, instructed "to marshall his Coate Armour, allowing it to him, quartered with the armes of clan Allaster, who hath acknowledged him for chief of their familie." The royal letter was accompanied with a draught of the proposed grant, while the Lyon King was charged to embody in the escutcheon the arms of New Scotland.

The coat of arms granted to Viscount Stirling is thus described :

"Alexander, Earle off Stirline, Lord Alexander of Cannada, etc., Bairyeth quarterlie: First, parted per pale arg. and sable, a chiveron with a croisant in bass counterchanged for his paternall coat. Secondlie, or, a lumfad raes in croce sable betuixt thrie croce croslet gules by the name of M^{c}——; the thrid as the second; the fourt as the first. Over all ane Inscutcheon with

the armes of Nova Scotia, viz., arg. a crose azur with the armes of Scotland; aboue the scheild his comitall crounet; upon the same, his helme and mantle guls doubled ermine. For his creist, on a wreath arg. sable, a bever proper. For supporters a Savaidge and a Marmaid, combe in hand. His Motto, *Per Mare per terras*" (MS. in Lyon Office).

A mansion befitting his rank was Lord Stirling's next project. He had already rebuilt or enlarged the family residence at Menstry, which, even as a ruin, presents a massive and not inelegant aspect. Inclosing a quadrangular court, it is entered by

a handsome archway. Around are gardens and orchards, and the situation at the base of the heath-clad Ochils is romantic and beautiful. But Lord Stirling felt that as a peer he should occupy a lordly dwelling, while his title suggested its erection in the town whence it was derived. Anthony, his second son, who had studied architecture abroad, and held

office as Master of Works, was, in October 1632, admitted a burgess of Stirling (Stirling Burgh Records). There he selected a site for the contemplated mansion. The spot chosen was the best possible. Immediately adjoining the nobly decorated structure of Mar's Work and the entrance to the castle, the view on every side is commanding and beautiful. On the north-west, the horizon is bounded by the gigantic crests of the Grampian mountains. North-eastward are the verdant and massive Ochils, guarding a plain diversified with crag, wood, and water,

and presenting, in its centre, the serpent-like foldings of the Forth. To the south is Bannockburn, consecrated by patriotic valour; and on the south-west the Lennox hills. The immediate environs are historically interesting. Ballingeich Pass, associated with the chivalrous adventures of the fifth James, extends north-eastward. In the immediate front is the Valley, a level portion of the castle-hill, the scene of tournament and courtly pastime. South-westward on the shoulders of the rock extended a series of terraced gardens; and beneath was the Round Table, where courtly knights held revel, and the King's Park, where had been practised royal sports.

On such a site an ingenious architect had abundant scope to exercise his skill. Anthony Alexander was equal to his task. He designed an edifice of graceful and elegant proportions. A square structure, with two projecting wings, the back and front displayed a series of dormer windows, with a profuse distribution of semi-classic mouldings. The baron's hall, occupying a portion of the second floor, was a lofty apartment, panelled with oak, with massive chimney-piece, elegantly sculptured and richly gilded. The staircase was protected by a massive balustrade of carved oak. In the centre of the front wall, over the entrance porch, an elegant sculpture, still entire, displayed the armorial escutcheon of the noble owner.

As the erection of the mansion was proceeded with, money was urgently needed. Lord Stirling lost no

opportunity of acquiring it. Anne Nasmyth, daughter of the late John Nasmyth, chirurgeon to James VI., was on the eve of her marriage. As an heiress, she was bound to pay into the Exchequer certain dues of "ward, nonentrie, and marriage." These were, by a royal warrant, dated 12th October 1632, transferred to Lord Stirling (Reg. of Letters).

Though the New Scotland scheme was still advocated both by Lord Stirling and his eldest son, baron-

etcies in connection with the enterprise ceased to be sought after. Fertile in expedients, Lord Stirling suggested that the area of distributing honours should be extended. Accordingly, on the 24th April 1633, the king published a royal letter, addressed to the Commissioners for the Plantation of New Scotland, in which he desired them to assure his loyal subjects in England and Ireland that they might obtain baronetcies in connection with the colony without extra fees. His Majesty also informed the Commissioners

that, notwithstanding his arrangement with the French king, he had not abandoned his right to New Scotland, but would certainly carry on the plantation "by compleiting of the intendit number of Knight Baronetts as other wayes" (Reg. of Letters).

Both in Scotland and Ireland the new movement proved unpopular. The Irish Court of Chancery was successfully moved to deprive Lord Stirling of his lands in Ulster, under the plea that he had not fulfilled the conditions of his grant by planting his lands with Scottish or English settlers;* and the first Irishman created a baronet was, by the authorities in Scotland, subjected to insult. This was Peirs Corsbie, a member of the Irish Privy Council, whose patent was stopped by the Chancellor of Scotland, on account of his being an associate of Lord Ochiltree, who, for falsely accusing the Marquis of Hamilton of high treason, had forfeited his patent and been subjected to imprisonment. Corsbie afterwards received his patent through a royal order. He was in March 1633 assured of the royal protection (Reg. of Letters).

Charles I. was crowned at Holyrood Palace on the 14th June 1633. On the occasion, Lord Stirling was advanced to the dignity of an earl, with the additional title of Viscount Canada. From the poet William

* The court held that "Henry Duff O'Connellan, a mere Irishman, hath inhabited upon one quarter of the town of Mullaliglisse, granted to Sir William Alexander, Knt., by letters patent, said quarter being undertaker's land, and contrary to the conditions" (Inquisitionum Cancellariæ Hiberniæ Repertorium, 1633).

Habington he received the following congratulatory ode :

"To the Right Honourable and excellently-learned William Earl of St(erling).

"My Lord,

"The Laurell doth your reverend temples wreath
As aptly now as when your youth did breath
Those tragick raptures, which your name shall save
From the black edict of a tyrant grave.
Nor shall your Day ere set, till the Sunne shall
From the blind Heavens like a cinder fall ;
And all the elements intend their strife
To ruine what they fram'd ; then your Fame's life,
When desp'rate Time lies gasping, shall expire,
Attended by the world, i' th' generall fire.
Fame lengthens thus her selfe ; and I, to tread
Your steps to glory, search among the dead,
Where Vertue lies obscur'd, that as I give
Life to her tombe, I, spight of time, may live.
Now I resolve, in triumph of my verse,
To bring great Talbot from that forren* hearse,
Which yet doth to her fright his dust enclose ;
Then to sing Herbert, who so glorious rose
With the fourth Edward, that his faith doth shine
Yet in the faith of noblest Pembroke's line.
Sometimes my swelling spirits I prepare
To speak the mighty Percy, neerest heire
In merits as in blood, to Charles the great ;
Then Darbie's worth and greatness to repeat,
Or Morley's honour, or Monteagle's fame,
Whose valour lives eterniz'd in his name ;
But while I think to sing these of my blood,
And my Castara's, Love's unruly flood
Breaks in, and beares away whatever standes
Built by my busie Fancy on the sands."

—*Habington's Castara*, 1634, 8vo, p. 233.

The earl added to the family estate. On the 12th July 1634 he received, under the Great Seal, a charter of the lands of Tillicoultry, "including the lands of Balhart, Drumny, Schanniet, Cosnachtane, Colums-

* Buried at Rouen.

danache, with the mill of Cairntown, and others," which formerly belonged to James, Lord Colvill of Culross—the whole lands, with the town of Tillicoultry, being erected into a burgh of barony, to be held of the king on the annual payment of £55 Scots (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. liv., No. 268).

By a royal letter, dated 18th October 1633, the Privy Council was enjoined to satisfy Lord Stirling and his "creditors" as to his claims on "the copper money." As the council remained silent, the Treasurer of Exchequer received, on the 18th September 1634, the following missive:

"(CHARLES R.)

"Right, &c. Wheras, in consideratioun of a precept of 6000 lib. Stg., granted be our late dear Father to our right trustie and weil-beloved Cousen and Counsellour, the Erle of Stirling, ovr principall Secretarie for Scotland, for good and faythfull service done by him, and of a warrant of Ten Thousand Punds granted by ws vnto him vpon verie good considerations, as may appear by the same, We wer pleased to grant vnto him the benefite arysing by the coynage of the Copper money within that our kingdome for the space of nyne yeres and furder, till he should be compleitlie payed of all sowmes whatsumever due by ws vnto him: Now to the effect our said servant may have the more assurance to mak bargayne with others anent the said benefite for his releiff, and that ther may be a certane tyme appoynted for his payment, and for our haveing the benefite of the said Coyne to returne vnto ws, We doe heirby ratifie vnto him his grant of the whole benefite arysing dew vnto ws of that Copper Coyneage during the time yit to rin of that his patent: And it is our speciall pleasur that yow grant a warrant such as shalbe requisite of coynadge of sex thowsand stane weght of Copper, without intromission, immediatlie efter the ending of

the Coynadge of 1500 staine weght presentlie in hand, and for continewing of the Coynadge efter the full perfyteing of the said 6000 stane from yeir to yeir for the accustomed quantitie as we coyned these two yeires past, and that dureing the whole tyme yit to run of his patent, if ther sall ony of it remane efter the full perfyteing of the Coynadge of the 6000 stane: And that yow give ordour to our Advocat for drawing vp a sufficient discharge of the saids two precepts, to be signed by our said servant, with a discharge to him from ws of his intromission, with any benefite arysing with the Coynadge dureing the tyme past or to cum of his patent (of the which we doe lykewayes heirby discharge him), and that without any accompt to be made vnto ws, or in any our name, for the same, in regard of his discharge of his saids two precepts: And caus registrat this our letter, and mak such order in Counsell and Exchequer as may be most expedient for the farder securitie and satisfaction of our said servant, or such as he shall have occasion to treat or bargane with for making the best advantage of this our gratious intention towards him: ffor doeing wherof, thir presents shalbe vnto yow ane sufficient warrant.

"THEOBALDS, 18 *September* 1634" (Reg. of Letters).

As the copper money yielded no substantial profit, these appeals were fruitless. But Lord Stirling, whose affairs were becoming desperate, determined not to abandon his efforts to profit by the coinage. Obtaining for John Alexander, his fourth son, the office of General of the Mint, he recalled the copper

farthing, and issued in its place a coin of the same weight, which was made to pass as of the value of

two farthings. The new coins were called *turners*, probably so named from *Tournois*, a term applied to coins struck at Tours, in France. Their use was strongly resisted by the common people.

To Lord Stirling the coinage now yielded a substantial profit, and he proposed to acquire further benefit by mining and smelting the ore. The Earl of Melrose being induced to resign the office of Master of Metals, John Alexander was, on the 20th August 1635, appointed as his successor (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv.; Paper Register, p. 60). The new project did not suit, and was speedily abandoned. On the 16th January 1635-6, letters patent under the Great Seal were granted to James, Marquis of Hamilton, James Maxwell of Innerwick, gentleman of the king's bedchamber, and John Seaton of Mounie, giving them "power and commission to explore and make mines, and search for gold, silver, copper, and all other metals, within any part of the kingdom of Scotland, except the five-merks land of Watterheid, otherwise called Glengowerheid, belonging to the heirs of umquhile Robert Foullis, advocate" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 120, fol. 142 *b*).

CHAPTER VI.

MEMOIR OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, EARL OF STIRLING —FROM HIS LATEST ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A SCOTTISH COLONY IN CANADA TO THE CLOSE OF HIS PUBLIC ENTERPRISES.

We last heard of New Scotland in the royal letter of the 24th April 1633, when Charles I. intimated to his loving subjects of England and Ireland that they might obtain patents of baronetcy without being charged fees in excess of those exacted from natives of Scotland. On the 11th May thereafter, Sir William Alexander obtained a royal patent "for the sole trade in all and singular the regions, countreys, dominions, and all places whatsoever adjacent to the river and gulf of Canada, and the sole traffick from thence and the places adjoyning, for beaver skins and wool, and all other skins of wild beasts, for 31 yeares" (Colonial Papers, p. 165). On the 28th June, the Scottish Parliament ratified Lord Stirling's privileges, in connection with New Scotland, by the following Act:

"Our Soveraigne Lord and Estates of this present Parliament Ratifie and approve all letters patents and infeftments, granted

by King James the Sixth of blessed memorie, or by our said Soveraigne Lord, unto William, Viscount of Sterling, and to his heirs and assignes, of the Territories & Dominions of New Scotland and Canada in America, and especially the Patent, Charter, and Infeftment, granted by his Majestie's umquhile dearest Father of worthy memorie, of New Scotland, of the date the tenth day of September, the year of God 1621. Item, another charter of the same, granted by his Majestie, under the great Seale, of the date the twelfth day of July 1625 years. Item, another charter & infeftment, granted by his Majestie, of the Countrie & Dominion of New Scotland, under the great Seale, of the date the third of May 1627 yeares. Item, another charter & infeftment, granted by his Mat^ie^, under the great Seale, of the River and Gulf of Canada, bounds and priviledges thereof, mentioned in the said patent, of the date the second day of Februarie 1628 years. Item, a signature passed under his Majestie's hand, of the said Countrie and Dominion, which is to be with all diligence exped through the Seales, of the date at Whitehall, the twenty-fourth day of Aprill 1633 years. With all liberties, priviledges, honnours, jurisdictions, and dignities respective, therein mentioned. Together also with all execution, precepts, instruments of seasings, and seasings following, or that shall happen to follow thereupon. And also ratifies & approves the Act of General Conventioun of Estates at Holyrude house, the sexth day of July, the year of God 1630, whereby the said Estates have ratified and approved the dignities and order of Knight Baronet, with all the Acts of Secret Counsell and Proclamations following thereupon, made for maintaining of the said dignitie, place, and precedencie thereof. And his Majestie & Estates foresaid will, statute, & ordaine that the said Letters Patents, Charters, & Infeftments, and the said dignitie, title, and order of Baronets, and all letters patent, & infeftments of lands and dignities, granted therewith to any person whatsoever, shall stand & continue in full force, with all liberties, priviledges, and precedencies thereof, according to the tenour of the same. And in als ample maner as if the bodies of the said letters patents, infeftments, and signature above mentioned, were herein particu-

larly ingrost & exprest. And ordaine intimation to be made hereof, by open proclamation, to all his Majestie's lieges, at the market crosse of Edinburgh and other places needful, that none pretend ignorance hereof" (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., p. 43).

The preceding statute was, like one of similar import passed previously, intended to satisfy the baronets of New Scotland as to the validity of their titles, notwithstanding the evacuation of the territory with which these titles were associated.

The royal warrant for £10,000 sterling Lord Stirling had received for losses sustained in connection with his colonial enterprise, he had become satisfied would not procure, from an impoverished exchequer and its reluctant barons, any portion of money. In the circumstances he desired to secure new possessions in transatlantic regions. At his instance a royal letter was, on the 5th January 1634-5, addressed to Sir Ferdinand Gorges, of the Council of New England, requesting his attendance at court, that he might there give counsel respecting colonial affairs (Reg. of Letters). On the 29th day of the same month, the Commissioners for Plantations, including Sir Ferdinand Gorges, met in St Martin's Lane, London, when the Earl of Stirling and Lord Alexander were admitted councillors and patentees of the New England Company (Colonial Papers). After certain negotiations, the Council of New England granted to Lord Alexander "that part of the mainland in New England, from St Croix, adjoining

New Scotland, along the sea coast to Pemaquid, & so up the river to the Kiuebequi (Keuebeck), to be henceforth called the County of Canada; also the Island of Matowack or Long Island, to the west of Cape Cod, to be hereafter called the Isle of Sterling, to be holden of the Council and their successors *per gladium comitatus*, that is to say, to find four able men armed for war, to attend upon the governor of New England for the public service, within fourteen days after warning given."

Extended on parchment, the grant proceeded in these terms:

"To all Christian people vnto whom theis presents shall come, The Councell for the affaires of New England send greetinge in our Lord God everlastinge. Whereas our late Souraigne Lord Kinge James of blessed memory, by his highnes Letters Patente vnder the Greate Seale of England, bearing date att Westminster, the Thirde daye of November in the eighteenth yeare of his Ma^ties^ raigne ouer his highnes Realme of England, for the consideration in the said Letters Patente expressed and declared, hath absolutely given, graunted, and confirmed vnto the said Counsell, and their successors for euer, all the lands of Newe England in America, lyinge and beinge in breadth from fortie degrees of Northerly latitude from the Equinoctiall lyne to fortie-eight degrees of the said Northerly latitude inclusivelie, and in length of and within all the breadth aforesaid throughout the maine land from Sea to Sea. Together alsoe with all the ffirme lands, soyles, grounde, havons, ports, rivers, waters, fishinge, mynes, and mineralls, as well Royall mynes of Gold and Silver as other mynes and mineralls, pretious stones, quarries, and all and singular other commodities, jurisdictions, royalties, previledges, ffranchises, and preheminences, both within the said trade of land vppon the Maine, and also within the

Islands and Seas adjoininge (as by the said Letters Patents amongst diuers other things therein conteyned more att large it doth and may appeare). Now know all men by these presents that the said Counsell of New England in America beinge assembled in publique Courte, accordinge to an Acte made and agreed vppon the thirde day of ffebruary last past before the date of theis presents, for diuers gud causes and consideracions them herevnto especially movinge, have given, graunted, aliened, bargayned, and sold, And in and by theis presents doe for them and theire Successors give, graunt, alien, bargaine, sell, and confirme vnto the right honorable William Lord Alexander, his heires and assignes, All that part of the Maine Land of Newe England aforesaid, beginninge from a certaine place called or knowne by the name of Saint Croix next adjoininge to New Scotland in America aforesaid, and from thence extendinge alonge the Sea Coast vnto a certaine place called Pemaquid, and soe vpp the River thereof to the furthest head of the same as it tendeth Northwarde, and extendinge from thence att the nearest vnto the River of Kiuebequi, and so upwards alonge by the shortest course which tendeth vnto the River of Canada, ffrom henceforth to be called and knowne by the name of the Countie of Canada. And also all that Island or Islands heretofore comonly called by the severall name or names of Matowack or Longe Island, and hereafter to be called by the name of the Isle of Starlinge, situate lyinge and beinge to the westward of Cape Codd or the Narohiganlets, within the latitude of ffortie or fortie-one degrees or thereabouts, abuttinge vpon the Maineland betweene the two Rivers there knowne by the severall names of Conectecutt and Hudson's River, and conteyninge in length from East to West the whole length of the Sea Coast there betweene the said two Rivers. Together with all and singular havens, harbours, creekes, and Islands, imbayed, and all Islands and Ilets lyinge within ffive leagues distance of the Maine, beinge opposite and abuttinge vpon the premises, or any part thereof, not formerly lawfully graunted to any by speciall name. And all mynes, mineralls, quarries, soyles, and woods, marishes, rivers, waters,

lakes, ffishings, hawkinge, huntinge, and ffowlinge, and all other Royalties, jurisdiccions, priviledges, prehementes, proffits, commodities, and hereditaments whatsoeuer, with all and singular these and euery of theire appurtenentes. And together alsoe with all Rents reserued, and the benefitt of all proffits due to them, the said Counsell and their Successors and precincts aforesaid, to be exercised and executed accordinge to the Lawes of England, as neere as may be by the said William Lord Alexander, his heires or assignes, or his or theire Deputies, Lieutenents, Judges, Stewards, or Officers therevnto by him or them, or theire Assignes, deputed or appointed from time to time, with all other priviledges, franchises, liberties, immunities, escheates, and casualties thereof arriseing, or which shall or may hereafter arise within the said limitte and precincts, with all theire intrest, right, title, claime, and demand whatsoeuer, which the said Councell and their Successors now of right have, or ought to have or claime, or may haue or acquire hereafter, in or to the said portion of Lands or Islands, or any the premises, and in as free, ample, large, and beneficiall manner to all intents, constructions, and purposes what so euer as the said Councell, by vertue of his Ma^ties^ said Letters Patent, may or can graunt the same: Saueing and allwayes reseruinge vnto the said Councell and their Successors power to receaue, heare, and determine all and singular appeale and appeales of euery person and persons whatsoeuer dwellinge or inhabitinge within the said Territories and Islands, or any part thereof, soe graunted as aforesaid, of and from all judgements and sentences whatsoeuer given within the said lands and Territories aforesaid. To haue and to holde all and singular the lands and premises aboue by theis presents graunted (excepte before excepted), with all and all manner of proffitts, commodities, and hereditaments whatsoeuer within the lands and precincts aforesaid to the said lands, Islands, and premises, or any of them, in any wise belonginge or apperteyninge vnto the said William Lord Alexander, his heires and assignes, To the only proper use and behoofe of him, the said William Lord Alexander, his heires and assignes, for euer. To be holden of the said Councell, and their Successors for euer, one fift part of all

the . . . are of the mynes of gold and silver which shalbe had, possessed, or obteyned within the limitte or precincts aforesaid for all rents, seruices, dueties, and demaunds whatsoeuer due vnto the said Councell and their Successors from plantacion within the precincts aforesaid. The same to be deliuered vnto his Ma^ties^ Receiver or deputie, or deputies assignes . . . to the use of his Ma^tie^, his heires and successors, from . . . the Lands, precincts, and Territories of New England foresaid . . . the two and twentie day of [Aprill 1635] and 11th yeare of the Raigne."

On the 25th April 1635, three days after the date of the preceding grant, the Council of New England, having met at Whitehall, prepared a declaration for the surrender of their great charter. This declaration, which set forth "the frequent troubles and great charges" to which they had been subjected, was, on the 1st May, presented to the king by Edward, Lord Gorges, as President of the Council. Instead of the charter, the Council desired personal grants of the lands, laid out in eight divisions on the sea-coast of New England, to be held immediately from the Crown. The request was complied with (Calendar of State Papers, Colonial).

Lord Stirling appointed an agent to watch his interest in his new territories. On the 1st November 1638, four members of the late council met at his house in London, to prepare a memorial to the king for an augmentation of a degree more in latitude and longitude to such of their number as would declare whether they would accept it to the northward or westward (Colonial Papers).

In the spring of 1632, Lord Stirling vigorously re-

newed his efforts for the introduction of his patent Psalms. On the 13th March of that year the Archbishop of Canterbury was requested, by royal letter, "to convene the Bishop of London, and such other bishops nere London," to resolve upon some course to introduce the new psalm-book in the different churches. Royal letters of like import were directed to the Archbishop of St Andrews and the Archbishop of Armagh, directing them to follow a similar course in Scotland and Ireland. As the Archbishop of Canterbury remained silent, the English clergy were, in a royal letter, dated the 6th July, individually enjoined to recommend the new version to their parishioners (Reg. of Letters). Like the English primate, the Archbishops of St Andrews and Armagh made no response. In Ireland further effort was useless; but Lord Stirling reasoned that as the Scottish church was divided between adherents of episcopacy and presbytery, he might secure towards his psalm-book the adhesion of one or other of the parties. The bishops were irreconcilably opposed. Copies of the psalm-book, deposited with the Archbishop of St Andrews, were unsought after; and no member of the episcopal order, even on the royal command, would express approval or sanction.

Copies of the work were sent to presbyteries. These courts considered the version, and in reports to provincial synods, emphatically condemned it. The General Assembly adopted "Reasons against the

use of the new Metaphrase." Among these were the following: the translation has been undertaken without the sanction of the Church; the people were satisfied with the version presently in use; a courtier was not well suited as a translator of Holy Writ; and the new version contained doubtful doctrine and certain objectionable phrases (Reasons against the reception of King James' Metaphrase of the Psalms. Printed by the Bannatyne Club).

As both the bishops and General Assembly of the Scottish Church resisted his psalm-book, Lord Stirling determined that they should have no other. By a royal letter, issued in December 1634, the Privy Council were enjoined "to give present ordour in such manner as is requisite that no vther Psalmes of any edition whatsoever be either printed heirefter within that our kingdome, or imported thither, either bound by themselffs or vtherways from any forrayne parts." At the same time the Archbishop of St Andrews was charged to take heed "that no Psalme bookes in meeter of the old translation be printed or brought in, under the pane of confiscation of the books and other punischment" (Reg. of Letters).

Lord Stirling occupied his manor-house at Menstry for the last time in the autumn of 1634. Here he composed an essay, which he styles "Anacrisis, or a Censure of some Poets, ancient and modern." He transmitted it to Drummond of Hawthornden, with the following letter:

"TO MY MUCH HONOURED FRIEND,
"MR WILLIAM DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN.

"SIR,—I would have this piece appear to the world with your name, as well for a Testimony to after-times of our Friendship and Love, as for that, to my knowledge there is not in our Northern Country who hath more diligently perused the Authors cited in this Censure, and who can so universally discern of every of them in their own language as yourself. My daily cares at Court, and Employments in Matters of State, have not granted me leisure to set the last Hand unto it. Neither have I went [*sic*] so through all, but that you (if you please) in that Solitariness & Leisure which you enjoy, may proceed & spend some flying Hours upon this same subject. And, I am assured, our pieces cannot but with applause & contentment be read & embraced by the thankful Posterity, who after death shall render to every Man what is his due.—Your loving Friend and Brother, STIRLING."*

The "Anacrisis," chiefly remarkable for a pompous display of learning, is included in the appendix. A further communication from Lord Stirling to the poet of Hawthornden may be introduced here :

"MY NOBLE FRIEND,—I was very glad to see your letter, but displeased with that part thereof whereby you excuse the discontinuance of writing to me; for no distance of degree nor place should have the power to interrupt the course of so harmonious an unitedness as hath so long continued between us. As for the Fairy Queen of whom you wrote to me, her apparitions of late have bewitched so many that I find sundry ready to dance with the Fairies; but I shall use my best means (for the Nymph's sake that dwelleth upon the Lake) to conjure them, and shall ever approve myself.—Your very loving Friend to serve you,
"STERLINE.

"NEWMARKET, 22*d October* 1636" (Drummond's Works, p. 151).

* Works of William Drummond of Hawthornden. Edin. 1711. Familiar Epistles, No. 18.

In his new residence at Stirling, which he entered in 1635, Lord Stirling composed the first part of a heroic poem entitled "Jonathan." Revising his former poems, he reproduced them, excepting the "Aurora," in an elegant folio printed in 1637 by Thomas Harper, and entitled "Recreations with the Mvses." To a few copies intended for presentation he prefixed his portrait, executed by William Marshall, the celebrated engraver.

On entering his new residence, Lord Stirling experienced a singular insult. A portion of soiled calico was thrown across the sculpture of his escutcheon, on which his family motto, "Per mare, per terras," was parodied *Per metre, per turners,* in evident allusion to his debased coinage, and patent Psalms. But the shaft of the satirist might not divert him from his plans; he resolved at all hazards to cling to his coinage and his Psalms. For the latter a field in England or Ireland might not be hoped for, but the Scottish clergy might be won. Immediately following the decree of December, prohibiting the printing or importation of any version of the Psalms other than his own, he evinced his zeal in the interests of the Church by founding a parish. In a royal letter dated 5th January 1634-5 the Commissioners of Tithes were empowered to constitute his lands into a parish, to be called Tullibody (Reg. of Letters).

In his version of the Psalms, the General Assembly had, in their "Reasons" for rejecting it, pointed to

some expressions more adapted for secular than sacred verse, as where the moon was styled "pale lady of the night," and the sun was apostrophised as "the lord of light." From a new edition, which he proceeded to prepare, Lord Stirling eliminated these and other objectionable phrases.

But the Scottish clergy were not to be conciliated either by improvements in the patent version of the Psalms, or by any friendly professions of the author. To them Lord Stirling appeared as a politician who was less actuated by religious sentiment than by a desire to subserve his private interests.*

At this time Archbishop Laud was preparing his service-book for the Scottish Church, and he was assured by his correspondent, the Bishop of Ross,† that Lord Stirling would facilitate its introduction, provided an effort was put forth on behalf of his patent Psalms. To the psalm-book Laud, as Primate of the English Church, had already refused his sanction, but he was now disposed to concede an approval

* When in 1632 Mr Robert Blair, the eminent Presbyterian divine, arrived in London to plead the cause of the Irish Presbyterians, he waited on Lord Stirling, who promised to lay his memorial before the king. "But the earl," reported Mr Blair, "fearing Bishop Laud more than God, did faint and break his promise" (Reid's Irish Presbyterian Church, i. 40).

† John Maxwell, Bishop of Ross, was son of Maxwell of Cavers, a branch of the family of Kirkhouse, in Nithsdale. He was ordained minister of Mortlach in 1615, and in 1622 was transferred to one of the churches of Edinburgh. Through the influence of his cousin, James Maxwell, afterwards Earl of Dirleton, he was in 1633 appointed Bishop of Ross. He became intimate with Archbishop Laud, through whose recommendation he was nominated a Privy Councillor and an Extraordinary Lord of Session. He was ultimately promoted as Archbishop of Tuam; he died 14th February 1646, about the age of fifty-five (Fasti Eccl. Scot., iii. 453).

of it in connection with the sister establishment. With a view to its introduction simultaneously with the service-book, he supplied Lord Stirling with the printed sheets of that work, that it might be produced in the same form and character of type. Lord Stirling's new edition, a small folio, printed in black letter, was ready early in 1636, the Psalms being accompanied with musical notation; it was printed at London by Thomas Harper. To modify northern prejudices, Laud entrusted his service-book to Robert Young, the king's printer at Edinburgh, who undertook to have it ready in autumn. A royal letter was issued on the 18th October, in which the Scottish Privy Council were enjoined to make proclamation, that under heavy penalties the service-book should be used in every parish church. The council so proclaimed on the 20th December, but the book was not yet ready. Robert Young hesitated to issue a work which might involve him in popular disfavour. Lord Stirling was deeply offended with him, and in a letter to the Bishop of Ross, styled him "the greatest knave he had ever dealt with." Young was at length reconciled, and the service-book, printed from a new fount of black letter, was issued from his printing-office in the following May.*

* The work appeared under the following title, "The Booke of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments, and other parts of divine service, for the use of the Church of Scotland. Edinburgh: Printed by Robert Young, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, MDCXXXVII. *cum privilegio.*" A unique copy, bound up with Lord Stirling's version of the Psalms, is one of the literary curiosities in the Library of the British Museum.

After sanctioning the issue of Lord Stirling's Psalms as a twin volume to the service-book, Archbishop Laud became apprehensive that a recognition of it would intensify popular distaste, and indicated a desire to recede from his promise. It was at length arranged, through the Bishop of Ross, that copies of the service-book should be offered both with Lord Stirling's Psalms and apart. But the purchase of the service-book only was made compulsory on the clergy, the price being £4, 16s. Scots.

The clergy did not hasten to purchase a work of which the existence was obnoxious to them. So a peremptory order was issued on the 15th July, that within fifteen days every parish minister should provide himself with a copy.

According to royal order, the service-book was, as a commencement, to be used in the churches of Edinburgh, on Sunday the 23d of July. On the morning of that day an eager and anxious crowd thronged the cathedral church of St Giles. Archbishop Spotswood of St Andrews, chancellor of the kingdom, occupied his throne, the Bishop of Edinburgh, David Lindsay, sat in the pulpit, and Dr James Hannay, Dean of Edinburgh, presided at the reading-desk. As the last commenced to read from the service-book, murmurs of disapprobation became audible. A female who sat near the communion table rose from her stool, which she threw violently against the pulpit. General confusion ensued, and the

bishops, unable to restore order, left the church. The country was aroused, and petitions against the service-book were forwarded to the king from every town and hamlet. Then followed the Tables or Committees, which met at Edinburgh. On the 1st of March 1637-8, the National Covenant was renewed in the Greyfriars Church. Fearing to meet at Edinburgh, the Privy Council assembled at Stirling, and issued proclamations, which were forthwith met by public rejoinders and protests.

The king determined on revenge, but ere he could assemble an army, the Covenanters were so powerful that it became expedient to treat with them. In May 1638 the Marquis of Hamilton came to Scotland as a royal commissioner. No ordinary concessions would now satisfy a people goaded by oppression. They demanded that the Estates of Parliament and the General Assembly of the Church should be allowed to meet, and that meanwhile ecclesiastical innovations should cease. The concessions were made. On the 22d September a royal proclamation recalled the service-book, suspended the oppressive Court of High Commission, convened a Parliament, and convoked an Assembly. That Assembly—the most memorable in the history of the Scottish Church—met at Glasgow in November; it condemned the service-book and deposed the bishops. Lord Stirling's psalm-book was ignored; the late attempt to introduce it had utterly failed.

Lord Stirling experienced severe family affliction. Sir Anthony Alexander, his second son, died at London on the 17th September 1637, and his eldest son, Lord Alexander, died at London of fever, on the 18th May 1638 (Reg. of Letters). Informed that he had sustained these sad bereavements, his friend William Drummond condoled with him in the following letter:

"When the pitiful news came of so dear funerals, though I had an intention to have written to your Lordship, I restrained myself, both because your wound was flagrant, and that I had not an argument of comfort which was not your own. Nothing is now left me but to manifest that the sense of this loss could not but perplex him grievously, who never made any difference between your fortunes and his own. I hold myself co-partner of all your griefs as I have been of your prosperities. I know your fatherly affection. I know too your constancy, which, being seasoned with piety, will not suffer you to repine at that which is the determined will of God. Your erudition and experience instruct you that such accidents should be taken in good part and cheerfully, which are not incident to us alone, and which, by our sighs, tears, and plaints, we may not evite and put far from us. You must not attend till time mitigate your languor, for this do the vulgar sort of men with *Sola dies poterit tantum lenire dolorem.* A wise man should prevent and anticipate time, overrun new-born grief, which is an ungrateful guest, thrusting out and ransacking the masters of the inn. I, who am conscious of your patience and wisdom, am assured you have performed all this already, upon which confidence I will leave off to trouble you further, or lay a heavier burden and needless task upon myself. W. DRUMMOND."

(Drummond's Works, p. 145.)

Drummond celebrated Sir Anthony Alexander in

an elegiac poem. Respecting Lord Alexander, Principal Robert Baillie, the celebrated Presbyterian divine, thus communicated with his correspondent, Mr William Spang, minister at Campvere:

"With the President * came word of my L. Alexander's death. I have into itt a losse of a near coosin and familiar friend. The King did professe his losse of a servant of great hopes. Ye knowe beside the galantries of his persone, he was both wise, learned, and verie well spoken: The Countrey makes not much doole for him, for they took him for ane advancer of the episcopall causes to his power. It feares me his death will undo that ryesing House; their debts are great. His Father is old and extreamely hated of all the countrey for his alledged briberie, urgeing of the Psalmes and the Books [Service-Books] for them [*i.e.*, on account of the Psalms], overwhelming us with his Black money. His Soune [the son of Lord Alexander] is but ane infant; his brother, Sir Antonie and Robert also are dead: Henrie will not be able yet for his place:† and if he should what he can gaine must be for himself, and not the House. Many who intended his Father's overthrow were withholden for respect to him. In a three or four dayes feaver, beside all men's expectation, he expired" (Baillie's Letters, vol. i., pp. 76, 77).

Principal Baillie augured correctly. Lord Alexander died insolvent, leaving his young widow, a daughter of the Marquis of Douglas, altogether unprovided for, also an infant son. He was spared from contemplating the troubles which fell upon his House. The Estates of Parliament, which met in August 1639, enacted that patents of honour should

* Sir Robert Spotswood, son of the Archbishop, and President of the College of Justice.

† Lord Alexander held office as an Extraordinary Lord of Session.

be granted to those only who drew rents in Scotland equal to 10,000 merks annually, that the value of money should not be enhanced without their express sanction, and that the copper coin issued by the Earl of Stirling should be reduced to its true value. These enactments were rejected by the king, but the Privy Council proceeded, by the authority of Parliament, to "call down" Lord Stirling's coins by open proclamation. An attempt made to arrest the Act of the Estates was inefficacious, and Lord Stirling's *turners* soon disappeared from the circulation (Spalding's Memorials, i. 235).

A contemporary chronicler, Mr John Gordon, pastor of Rothiemay, thus notices the proceedings:

"This year lyckwayes, *Novembris* second, the small copper farthings wer cryed down to half worthe, but a little afterward they praescrybed and went out of fashione qwyte. The kyngdome had been much abused by them, both because they wer under the just weight of the copper money, as also, amongst other monopolyes which a whyle befor wer current in England, Sir William Alexander (once of Menstrye), then Earle of Sterlin, and secretaire for Scottlande, a man extremly prodigall, had purchased a licence for to coyne above the value of ane hundereth thousands pounds Scottish (some said three hundereth thousande pounds worth), of thes small *Turnors*, for to be some recrute to his creacked fortune, after his former monopoly of selling knyght barronetts patents for New Scottland was growne stale, and gave no mor pryce, and after the planting of his kyngdome in Alexandria had miscarryd. Nor was this all; for, in lieu of his priveleidge, ther wer aboundance more carryd in unto Scottland by merchants, who brought them from Macklyne, and other places, wher that trade of counterfitting coyne is drivne to the benefitt of none but thes impostors themselves.

For some tyme no money was to be seen almost but *Turnors*, which for ease of the receipt wer putt in many little baggs, and this way compted in dollars. The merchants did hurt the countrey much by this meanes, for some of the wealthyer sort did buy them from Sir William Alexander's factors by weight, in barrells, and entysed the ruder sorte of people to chaunge them for silver coyne, giving to the poorer sorte some few *Turnors* of quine, acording to the worth of the silver piece that they exchaunged with them. It is a probleme which I can hardly determine, whither the countrey wer worse satisfeed, and complained mor, or sustained mor injurye, by coyning thes *Turnors*, or by crying them downe; for many wer losers evrye waye, and not a little of the silver coyne was transported at that tyme by the merchantes over seas (for many yeares before they had stollne all the gold coyne out of the countrey), and ther exchainged to the best advantage, seing that the money at that time was current at higher rates then it was in Scottlande. This is that decrying of the money by the Comissioners authoritye which the Covenanters complaine upon in ther parliamentary declaratione, *Decembris* eighteenth" (Gordon's Scots Affairs, pp. 87, 88).

In a MS. entitled, "A Litle but true Rehearsal, collected by a friend of Doctor Alexander at Aberdeen," it is related that two sons of the Earl of Stirling (doubtless Henry and John) accompanied John Gordon, Lord Aboyne, second son of the Marquis of Huntly, when in 1639, in the interest of Charles I., he sailed into the roads at Aberdeen, with three ships of war, to resist the upholders of the Covenant (Stewart's Collections, Advocates Library, 34, 3, 12).

CHAPTER VII.

MEMOIR OF THE EARL OF STIRLING—HIS EMBARRASSMENTS, DEATH, AND FUNERAL—HIS CHARACTER.

Since his means of discharging his obligations had virtually ceased, Lord Stirling's creditors became clamorous. To an obligation for borrowed money, granted on the 14th December 1636 by the earl and his deceased sons, Sir Thomas Hope of Kerse received a bond of corroboration on the 2d September 1638, subscribed by the earl's surviving sons and others, as cautioners. This instrument Sir Thomas recorded in the Books of Council and Session on the 28th January 1639-40. It proceeds thus:

"Be it kend till all men be thir present letteris, ws, Williame, Erle of Stirling, Lord Alexander of Tulliebodie, forsameikill as umq^le^ Williame Lord Alexander, our eldest laufull sone, as principall, & umq^le^ Sir Antonie Alexander, our sone, & Mr James Gordoun, Keepar of the Signet, as cautionaris for him, be thair band and obligatioun, subscryuit with thair handis, of the dait the fourtene day of December, Jmvjc. 36 yeirs, grantit thame to be addetit and awand to Sir Thomas Hope of Kerss, knicht, all and haill, &c., as the said band and obligatioun, of the dait foirsaid, in itselff at mair lenth beiris: And now seing it hes pleisit God to call the said umq^le^ Williame Lord Alexander, our sone, out of this mortall lyffe, and that we ar willing to secure the said Sir Thomas, and his foirsaidis, for payment of

the foirsaidis sowmes: Thairfoir witt ye ws, the said Williame, Erle of Stirling, as principall, and with ws, Johne Alexander of Graitmure, Charles Alexander, our sones, &c., as cautionaris, souerties, and full dettouris for ws, but preiudice of the foirsaid obligatioun, maid to the said Sir Thomas, and his foirsaidis, of the foirsaid principall sowme, annuel rentis, and expenses yairof, bot in farder corroboratioun of the samyn, *accumulando jura juribus*, to be bund and oblist, lykeas we, be the tennour heirof, bindis and obliss ws, conjunctlie and seueralie, our airis and executouris, to content and pay to the said Sir Thomas Hope, and his foirsaidis, the foirsaid principall sowme, &c.

"(Sic subscribitur) JOHNE ALEXANDER.
CHARLES ALEXANDER.
MR J. GORDOUN.
ANDRO ALEXANDER.
HENRIE ALEXANDER."

To this bond, one of the cautioners was Mr James Gordon, Deputy Keeper of the Signet. On the 29th January, being the day succeeding that on which Sir Thomas Hope registered his bond, Gordon and Alexander Kynneir of Forreit, for their own interest, and on behalf of his lordship's other creditors, procured from the earl the following assignation:

"Be it kend till all men be thir present letteris, ws, William, Erle of Stirling, Viscount of Cannada, Lord Alexander of Tullibodie and Menstrie, Secretar to his Ma^tie^ for the kingdome of Scotland. Forsameikle as we haive patent grantit to ws be his Ma^tie^ of Nova Scotia in America, and for disponing and resyneing of certane proportions of land thereof, and procuring to sindrie personis the infeftmentis of the samyne fra his Ma^tie^, with the honour and dignitie of Knychtis Barronettis, haive been in vse to gett fra everie ane of the receavers yairof the sowme of money of this realme, or yairby; and siclyk, forsameikle as we haive obtainit from his majistie his hienis' letters of gyft to ws,

our airis and assignayes, the gyft of the marriage of Francis, now Erle of Buckcleugh, sone and aire to umq[l] Walter, Earle of Balcleuch, his father, as vackand in his Majistie's hands, in manner mentionit in the gyft grantit to ws thareupon, with the haill profites and comodities of the said marriage. And also forsameikle as we have power and commissioune grantit to ws be his Majistie to admit, receave, nominat, and creat all Sheriff clerkis, Stewart clerkis, and baillie clerkis within the kingdome of Scotland, as the samyne sall happin to fall and vaik in his Majistie's handis, in manner mentionit in the letters of gift grantit to ws by his Majistie thairupon. And in lyk manner, forsameikle as thair is ane contract and appoyntment maid betwixt . on the ane part, and we, the said William, Erle of Stirling, on the uther part, of the dait Be the qlk contract, we, for the causes therein stated, have bund and obleight ws. to infeft and sease the said for themselfis, and to the behove of the remanent persounes above namit, for thair releyff of their cautionry conteinat in the inventar mentionat in the said contract, and payment of yair debtis thairin stated, in all and sundrie the landis and baronie of Tullibodie, Menstrie, and Tullicoultrie, and uthers particularlie and generallie mentionat and sett downe in the said contract. And also, be the said contract, the said assigneis transferrit and disponit to and in favor of the said for themselfis, and to the behuiff of the remanent personnis contracters above namit, the gift grantit to us of the said feu-fermes, maills, and dewties of the saidis lands and barony of Tillicultrie, and of the landis of Westertoun of Tillicultrie, togidder with the fees and casualities of his Majestie's signet belonging to ws, as his Majestie's Secretar of the said kingdome of Scotland. And that in forme and maner, and under the provisiones, restrictiones, and conditiones mentionat in the said contract. Whereas in the said contract it is speciallie provydit and declairit that the landis, baronies, and utheris thairin specifeit, sall be recoverable be us fra the said be releiving of thame and remanent cautionaris thairin nominat of thair haill cautionries, conteinat in ye inventar thairin specifeit, and be payment making to our creditouris nominat in ye said inventar

of thair debtis thairin exprest auchtand be ws to thame, with the haill annuall rentes thereof that sall happin to be dew for the same. All which being done, it is provydit be the said contract, that the saidis sallbe haldin to renunce, resigne, and overgive the samyne contract and infeftments appoyntit to follow hereupon in favor of our airs and assignayes, the said contract, conteining the said provissione of reversioune and conditioune foirsaid, at mair length bears. And seeing that we (by and attour the burdingis and debtis conteinit in ye said inventar) stand trewlie adebtit and restand awand to Mr Alexander Kynneir of Forrett, and Mr James Gordoun, keeper of His Majistie's signet, divers great soumes of money, als weill anent the copper coyne, conform to the contract had betwixt ws, umquhill William, Lord Alexander, our sone, and thame, uther great soumes of money adebted be ws to them for themselfis, and for qlk they, at our earnest request and desyre, are become bund and obleight as cautioneris and sourities for ws for payment to our creditouris, nominat in the inventar underwrittin, off the said soumes of money therein specifiet; and haive also advancit and payit to ws sindrie sowmes of money mentionat in the saidis inventaris aftermentionat, conforme to the bandis and securities thairin specifiet, quhilkis haill cautionries and debtis are all particularlie mentionat and sett doune in the inventar thairof, subscryvit be ws of the daitt of thir presentis, and quhilk inventar hes relatioune to this present assignatioun and dispositioun. And we, being most willing and carefull (as reassone and equitie wald) that the foirnamit persounis, our cautioneries for the debtis conteinit in the said inventar, be thankfullie releiffit of thair cautionery, and the debtis thairin shown, payit to our creditors thairin nominat, Thairfore, witt ye ws to have maid, constitut, and ordanit, lykeas we be the tennor hereof, mak, constitut, and ordaine the said Mr Alexander Kynneir, and Mr James Gordoun, equallie and proportionallie amongst thame, thair airis, and assignayes, our very lawfull, undouttit, and irrevocabill procuratouris, cessioners, and assignayes, donatouris, and procuratouris, *in rem suam cum dispositione libera*, In and to the haill compositiones and soumes of money, to be

procured and receaved for the proportiones of land in Nova Scotia, and dignitie of Knight barronet, fra quhatsumever persoune or persounes, eyther in Scotland or England, and for admitting and receaving of quhatsumever persoune or persounes, to quhatsumever sheriff clerkschip, steward clerkschip, or baillie clerkschip, within the said kingdome of Scotland. And siclyke, in and to the said gift grantit to ws of the marriage of the said Francis, Earl of Buckcleuch, and in and to the haill benefit, profit, and commoditie that may be receavit be vertew thairof. And also, in and to the provisioun and conditioun of reversioune, specifiet and conteinet in the contract above mentionat, whereby the said landis and baronnies of Tullibodie, Menstrie, and Tillicultrie, and utheris thairin exprest, are appoynted to be redimable to ws in maner thairin containit; and in and to the haill claims and conditions of the said contract conceaved in our favor (excepting and reservand as is exceptit and reservit in the samyne contract), and in and to all right and benefit competent, or that may be competent, to us thairby. Lykeas we have surrogatt, and be thir presentis surrogattis the foirnamit personnes and their foresaiddis, in our full right, titill, and place of the sayme for ever, with power to thame to ask, creave, receave, intromitt with, and uptak the haill compositiones and soumes of money, to be receaved for procuring of the said dignitie of Knight Barronett fra quhatsumever persone or persounis either in Scotland or England; and for admitting and receaving of quhatsumever Sheriff clerkschips, Stewart clerkschips, or baillie clerkschips, within the said kingdome of Scotland, togidder with the haill proffeittis and commodities of the said Erle of Buckcleuch his marriage foresaid, and to serve the benefeit of the reversione and utheris conditiones contenit in the said contract conceaved in our favouris (excepting alwayis as is thairin exceptit), compone, transact, and aggrie thairanent, and if neid beis, to call and persew thairfoir as accordis of the law, and to doe all uther thingis requirit in premissis quhilk we myght have done ourselffis befoir the making heirof. Lykewise, we bind and obleige ws, our airis and successouris, to resyne certaine portiounes of the said landis in Nova Scotia; And to procure from his Majestie

signet and infeftment thairof, with the said honour and dignitie of Knights Barronets in the wonted manner, to and in favor of all such persounes as the saidis Mr Alexander Kinneir and Mr James Gordoun, or maist part of them, sall nominat and appoynt; And also to admitt, receave, nominat, and appoynt, and present sic qualified personnes as salbe nominat be thame or maist part of thame, to all shireff clerkschips, stewart clerkschips, or baillie clerkschips, within the said kingdome of Scotland, as the samen sall happen to vaik, and to caus the saidis Mr Alexander Kynneir and Mr James Gordoun, and thair foirsaidis, to be thankfullie answered and payit of the soumes of money and compositions, to be receaved for the said dignitie of knight barronett, and shireff clerkschips, stewart clerkschips, and baillie clerkschips. And farder, we have maid, constitut, and ordainit, and be the tennor heirof mak, constitut, and ordane the saidis Mr Alexander Kynneir and Mr James Gordoun, equallie and proportionallie amongis thaime, thair airis and assignayes, our very lawfull, undouttit, and irrevocabill cessioners and assignayes, in and to the debtis and soumes of money respective underwrittin, adebtit to ws in maner, and for the causes eftermentionat, viz., in and to ane band maid to ws be umq[1] Sir Richard Murray of Cockpool, designed thairin Mr Richard Murray, datit first Februar 1626 yeiris conteining thrie thousand merkis scots principall, and 200 lib. expences. To ane uther band maid to ws be Sir David Home of Wedderburne, dated the tent of May 1627 yeires, conteining three thousand merkis Scots principall, 300 merkis expences, with the ordinar annuelrent. To ane uther band maid to ws be Robert Bruce, fear of Clakmannan, datit 26 October 1625, conteining three thousand merks Scotts principall, iiic. lib. expences. To ane uther band maid to ws be Alexander Erskene of Dun, datit 4 Apryll 1631, conteining thrie thousand merks Scots principall, iiic. merks expences, with the ordinar annuelrent. To ane uther band maid to ws be Ronald, Erle of Ancrum, and Sir Robert Gordounne, Barronet, datit last Junij 1625 yeiris, conteining thrie thousand merks Scots principall, iiic. lib. expences, with the ordinar annuelrent. To ane other band maid to ws be umq[1] Robert, Lord Kirkcudbryt,

thairin designit Sir Robert M^cClelane, datit the twenty of May 1626 yeiris, conteining thrie thousand merkis principall, iiic. lib. expences. To ane uther band maid to us be umq^l William, Earl of Lothiane, datit the auchteen Apryl 1627, conteining twa thousand merkis principall, twa hundredth merkis penalty, and ane hundredth pundis of with the ordinar annuelrent. To ane uther band maid to us by Sir Hew Wallace of Craigie, datit the twenty sixt day of November 1629 yeiris, registrat 19th day of December 1631 yeiris, containing three thousand merkis principall, thrie hundred merkis of expences, with the ordinary annuelrent. To one uther band to us be the Erle of Linlithgow, datit ninth of November 1632 yeiris, whereby he is obleigit to pay to ws the third pairt of Twa Thousand pundis sterling for the cause thairin showed, and in and to the articles of aggrement past betwixt ws, therein designit Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, Knight, and the barons and gentlemen of Largis, daitit 10 of August 1630 yeiris, registrat in the Books of Sessioun, the 10 of July 1634 yeiris, And in and to the soume of twelff thousand pundis Scots thairin conteinit, qlk Sir Thomas Boyd of Bonschaw, John Boill of Kelburne, John Birsbeane of Bischoptoune, and Robert Boyd of Courgill, for thameselfis, and in name of the rest of the gentlemen, noblemen, and barrones, that hes rycht to the comontie of Largis, war, be the said articles, content to pay to ws at Mertimes, efter the dait foirsaid of the said articles. In and to the Inhibitioun reaisit and execut upon the said articles agains the said Sir Thomas and Robert Boyds, with the executiones and indersertiones thairof, and in and to all utheris letteris and executoriallis raisit and execut thairupon, with all that hes followit, or may follow, upon the said articles. And in and to the soume of sevin thousand nyne hundreth fourtie sax pundis threttene s. 4d. Scotts, of bygane restis of ane zeirlie pensioun of iic. lib. sterling, dew to us furth of the Exchequir of Scotland, the tyme of the last compt filed in Exchequir, quhilk was preceiding the terme of Mertimes 1638 yeiris; and in and to the said yeirlie pensioune of Twa hundredth pundis sterling, restand awand of the said terme of Mertimes 1638 yeires, Witsunday and Mertimes 1639

yeires, And of the said terme of Witsunday nex to cum 1640 yeires, extending the said haill termes in Scotts money to the soume of And in and to the soume of ellevin thousand, four hundredth, four score, eleven pundis, one shilling, six pennies, of bygaine maillis and dewties of our being and estait restand awand be our tennentis of the croptis and yeiris of God 1635, 1636, and 1637 yeiris, conforme to ane particular roll or note beirand every persoune and debtouris name with the quantitie of his rent. And in and to the haill furnishing and plenishing, to witt, hingings, beddis, with thair courteins, and haill furnitouris belonging thairto, tabillis, buirdis, less or mair, chyris, stoollis, naprie, broddis, chyneyes, with thair pertinentis, and haill remanent furnitour presentlie standing, and within that our great ludgeing within the burgh of Stirling, presentlie mentionat in ane inventar book lyand within the said ludgeing. And in and to ane uther band maid to ws be Hew Wallace of Craigie, conteining the soume of thrie thousand merkis principall, and thrie hundreth pundis of expences, dated the twentie of May 1626 yeiris. And in and to all and sindrie uther debtis, soumes of money, annuelrents, and debtis, and utheris quhatsumever, adebtit and restand awand to ws be quhatsumever maner of way. And in and to the contractis, bandis, gifts, pensiouns, and uthers writtis, rychts, and securities maid to ws thairanent, and transferris and dispons our haill rycht thairof to, and in favour of, the said Mr Alexander Kynneir and Mr James Gordoun and thair foirsaidis, surrogating thame in our full rycht and place of the samyne, with power to thame to ask, crave, receave, intromit with, and uptak the debtis, soumes of money, annuelrentis, and others, particularlie and generallie above specifiet, And acquittances and discharges upon the ressait thairof to mak, subscryve, and delyver, quhilk salbe sufficient, compone, transact, and aggrie thereanent, and, if neid bees, to call and persew thairfor, as accordis of the law, and to do all other things necessar and requisit concerning the premissis, quhilk we micht haive done ourself befoir the making heirof. Whilk assignatioun and dispositioun abovewritten, we bind and obleis us, our aires, executouris, and successouris, to warrant to the foirnamit persons, and

thair foirsaidis, to be gud and sufficient in itselff at all handis, as law will; Provyding always, lykas it is heirby speciallie provydit, that how soon it sall happin the said Mr Alexander Kynneir, and Mr James Gordoun, to be fullie releivit of thair haill cautionries, contenit in the said inventaris, and of all cost, skaith, damage, expences, and interest, quhilk they or any of thame sall happen to incur thairthrow, and be thankfullie and compleitlie payit of thair debtis and soumes of money specifeit in the said inventaris, and adebtit be ws to thame, with the haill annuelrentis thairof that sall happin to be dew for the samen, that then, and in that cais, and immediatelie thairefter, thir presents sall be null, and of nane availl, force, strenth, nor effect, fra thynfurth for ever, and the foirnamit persons sall be halden and obleist to repone ws in our awin rycht and place of premissis efter they be fullie releivit and payit in maner foirsaid. It is farder provydit that the acceptatioun of thir presentis sall in na wayes be prejudiciall to the accepters to use all uther executioun competent to thame of the law for thair releif of thair said cautionries, contenit in the said inventaris, and for payment of thair debtis thairin specifiet as accordis. It is also heirby provydit, that the assignatioun foirsaid to the compositions and soumes of money foirsaid, to be receaved for the proportions of land in Nova Scotia, and dignitie of Knyt Baronet, salbe no lett nor impediment to ws to dispone and resigne the said patent, ather to his Majistie or to any uther, the benefeit and soumes of money to be gottin thairfoir being alwayes applyed to the payment of the debtis, for the releiff of those quha ar ingaged as cautionaris for ws in the former contract heir specifeit, and the superplus thairof, and of all uther benefit that may aryse to thame, ather be the said assignatioun, or the first contract (the cautionaris of the first contract being alwayes first releived), to be uplift by thame for thair releiff; And finallie, we faithfullie bind and obleis ws and our foirsaidis to restorat, renew, extend, and ampliefie this present assignatioun and dispositioun be the advyse of men of judgement, keipand the substance thairof abovewrittin, and to mak and grant all securitie necessar to the foirnamit persons,

and to ilk ane of thame, quhensoever they sall requyre ws for that effect; and, for the mair securitie, we are content, and consent that thir presentis be insert and registrat in ye bookes of counsall and sessioune, to have the strength of ane decreit of ye lordis thairof, that letteris of horning on sax dayes and utheris necessar in form as effeiris, may pas heirupoun, and constitutts Mr William Forbes, advocat, our procuratour. In witnes quhairof we have subscryvit thir presentis with our hand (writtin be Patrik Gordoun, servitour to Mr James Gordoun, Keipar of his Majistie's signet), at Convent Gairdine, the twentie-nynt day of January 1640 yeiris, befoir thir witnesses—Mr Thomas Hammiltoun of Robertoun; Mr Walter Neische, shireff-clerk of Eadingtoune [Haddington]; and John Squyre, servitour to ws, the said Erle of Stirling.

"(Sic subscribitur), W. STERLINE.

"Mr Thomas Hammiltoun, witnes to Sterlin's subscriptioun. Mr Walter Neische, witnes thairto. Jo. Squyre, witnes thereto" (Reg. Mag. Sig., Paper Register, No. 479).

From the Lords of Council and Session, Gordon and Kynneir received authority to record this assignation in the usual register. This application was made and granted on the 15th of February; three days previously, Lord Stirling had ceased to live. He died at his residence, Covent Garden, on the 12th February 1639-40 (Crawford's Peerage, p. 463). Notwithstanding his embarrassments, he was awarded a funeral befitting his rank. The body was embalmed, and being placed in a leaden coffin, was conveyed by sea to Stirling; it was on the 12th April deposited in the family vault (Balfour's Annals, ii., p. 427). There it remained for a century, undisturbed ("A Genealogist" in the *London Chronicle*, 17th October 1776).

On attaining the dignity of Viscount, Lord Stirling proceeded to secure an appropriate place of sepulture. The most conspicuous funereal enclosure at Stirling was an adjunct on the south side of the High Church, known as *Bowie's aisle.* Who built or originally owned it does not appear; it was, on the 26th February 1618, resigned by Thomas Craigengelt of that ilk to the governors of the burgh hospital. By the master of the hospital it was in 1631 granted to Viscount Stirling, the grant being confirmed by the kirk session on the 4th October 1631, and afterwards on the 4th September 1632 (Stirling Kirk Session Records). Under the superintendence of Sir Anthony Alexander, the aisle was partially rebuilt, the upper portion being adapted as a family seat or gallery in the adjacent church, and the lower portion converted into a spacious vault. Into this vault Lord Stirling transferred from a less imposing sepulchre, the remains of Sir William and Lady Erskine, his wife's parents, while on a mural tablet he thus celebrated their virtues:

"Hic jacet in spe resurrectionis Gulielmus Æreskinus equestris ordinis, cum Joanna conjuge, illustri et communi Æreskinorum familia orta, singulari virtute femina, unica filia superstite, quæ postea Gulielmo Alexandro, Equiti egregio, Jacobo regi ab supplicibus libellis, Carolo regi ab Epistolis, proventusque regni anonis, nupsit. Eam filiam amor ejus numerosa sobole auxit, et hoc monumentum parentibus illustribus posuit." *

* The monumental slab has been preserved. The Latin inscription may be thus translated: "Here lies, in hope of the resurrection, William Erskine, Knight,

In the vault were deposited the embalmed remains of Sir Anthony Alexander and Lord Alexander. Soon after the earl's death the aisle and the earl's mansion at Stirling were assigned to "the masters of the Laigh hospital," by whom they were conveyed by instrument of sale to Archibald, eighth Earl of Argyle. While in the possession of the Argyle family, the aisle was allowed to fall into decay. Exposed to public sale on the 20th December 1764, at the instance of John, fourth Duke of Argyle, it was purchased by James Campbell, merchant in Stirling, and James Wright of Loss (Stirling Burgh Register).

To the modern history of Lord Stirling's burial-place attaches a curious interest. By Mr Wright of Loss, who became sole owner of Lord Stirling's mansion and tomb, the latter was granted to Mr James Wright, writer at Stirling, his family solicitor. When in the course of carrying out certain alterations on the fabric of the High Church, early in the present century, the aisle was removed, Mr James Wright transferred Sir William Erskine's monumental tablet to a more eligible enclosure adjoining the High Church, of which he consequently took possession on the plea that it was Lord Stirling's actual burial-place. At the time none were disposed to dispute

with his wife Joanna, a woman of great worth and illustrious birth, sprung from the main line of the Erskines, leaving behind them an only daughter, who was afterwards married to William Alexander, a distinguished knight, Master of Requests to King James, Secretary and Commissioner of Exchequer to Charles. His love has blessed that daughter with a numerous offspring, and has reared this monument to her illustrious parents."

the claim, but when in 1856 the burgh authorities were proceeding to remove certain adjuncts which disfigured the High Church, the lawyer's eldest daughter, an aged widow, resisted interference; certain legal proceedings supervened, when to avert costly litigation, the widow was by the burgh authorities allowed to retain the place of sepulture, so curiously acquired. In gratitude for service, the widow bequeathed to her solicitor a landed estate of the value of £10,000.

Though at the time of his death Lord Stirling's unpopularity was all but universal, one old friend remained firm. This was William Drummond of Hawthornden. Among his MSS. in the Advocates Library is an entry: "W. D. his cypress over the grave of S. W. A.," and the following jotting under the title of "Alphander:"

"His deeds in Caledonia, Arcadia, Alexandria; his poesies, adding to them his 'Jonathan;' his gravity and wit in counsel; his friendship, love, familiarity with his friends; his alliance with the greatest; his humanity towards all; his breeding at Leyden; his natural judgment above learning. I expected an epitaph *of* thee, and now I must write one *for* thee, *on* thee: receive, accept of my brass for thy gold."

Drummond's intended epitaph on his departed friend remained unwritten. A poetical antagonist was less inactive. Among the MSS. of Sir James Balfour in the Advocates Library appears a bitter pasquinade, directed against the earl and his sons.

Both in the character of the details and the style of verse, Sir James Balfour's own manner may be certainly traced. The lines follow :

" Vpone ye twelfe day of Appryle,
In Stirling kirke and Bowies yle,
The Nova Scotia Governouris,
The Tinkeris of ye New Turnours,
Wes castin in a hole by night,
For evill doers hattes ye light.
Earles of a housse in Strevelinge* toune,
Whilk I heir tell will be pulled doune ;
For whay ther master, ye Earle Argyle,
Fra wham thesse mooneshyne Lordes did wyle
Ther feus of lait—they were his vassalls,
Tho' now become grate Dinnie vassells—†
Will pull it downe, as I suppose,
Becaus it standes juste in his nosse.
The reassone no man can denay it,
Whay that ther buriall was so quiet ;
Becaus ther Landes beyond ye lyne
Layes so far off, as I devyne,
Ther subjects in ye winter wither,
Could not conveniently come hither.
Yet Victrie, quhen ye spring begins,
He's vow'd to mourne in Beaver skins,‡
Becaus his pattron, as ye know,
Became Knight Beaver longe agoe.
Some Baronetts hes vowed to make
Ther Orange Ribands to turne blaike.

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* The old mode of spelling Stirling.

† Derived from *duine*, "a man" and *nais*, "noble," the term Dunivassel was originally applied to persons of noble rank. Lindsay of Pitscottie writes (edit. 1814, p. 357) : "The king passed to ye Illes, and caused many of the great *Dunny Vassilis* to show their holdings, and fand mony of thame in non-entrie, and therefore took thame to his awin crown." In Colville's "Mock Poem" (i. 57) there is this verse :

" Some, sir, of our *Duniwessels*
Stood out, like Eglintoune and Cassils ;
And others, striving to sit still,
Were forced to go against their will."

‡ In reference to his holding the lieutenancy of New Scotland, Lord Stirling took a beaver as his crest. A bear sejant, proper, was the original crest of the House of Macalexander.

Both Tullieallan and Dunipeace
And Thornton's * wold qhyte their place,
To have their moneyes back againe,
Wich they on him bestowed in vaine,
With many a poor gentleman more,
Whose meins this Earle did devore.
Yet I am glad for M^r^ Harrey,†
Who drunken Vanlor's lasse did marey;
Who, to redeime his father's land,
Will give ten thousand pounds in hand.
I think he'll scorne to take ye name
Of M^r^ of worke for very shame;
Or to be Agent to the Burrowes,
To quhom he wrought a thousand sorrowes.
Ane Earle, a Viscount, and a Lord,
With such poore stylles will not accord.
Yet to conclude, 'twill make a verse
Vpon My Lord hes father's hearse.

"EPITAPH.

"Heir layes a farmer and a millar,
A poet and a Psalme booke spiller,
A purchasser by hooke and crooke,
A forger of ye service booke,
A copper smith who did much euill,
A friend to Bischopes and ye Devil,
A vaine, ambitious, flattring thing,
Late Secretary for a king;
Four Tragedies in verse he penn'd,
At last he made a Tragicke end.
The Beggars that could mak no verse
Strewed on ther Tourners on his herse."

Lord Stirling was succeeded in the earldom by his infant grandson, William Alexander, only son of the

* The three baronets referred to are Sir John Blackader of Tulliallan, Sir David Livingstoun of Dunipace, and Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton. These had probably accepted baronetcies in the hope of profiting by the territories in New Scotland, conferred on them in their patents. Sir Alexander Strachan became deeply embarrassed, and his son, the second baronet, died penniless.

† Henry Alexander, Lord Stirling's third son, subsequently third earl, married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Peter Vanlore, Bart. of Tylehurst, Berkshire. In 1637 he succeeded his brother, Sir Anthony Alexander, as Master of Works in Scotland. He also held the post of Agent for the Scottish Burghs.

deceased Viscount Alexander. He died in May 1640, when Henry, third son of the first Lord Stirling, became earl. By his father's creditors, he was, in a process of appraising, charged to enter heir to his father's estate, but he declined service. His father's debts amounted to £32,680 sterling.

At a court of appraising, held in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh on the 27th May 1641, lands belonging to the late Earl of Stirling, described as "the lands of Saltcoites Grahame, Stirlingshire, the lands of Tullibody, with the lands of Banchrie," Clackmannanshire, and the lands of Gogar, Perthshire, were appraised to Sir Thomas Hope of Kerse, and his heirs, in satisfaction of 12,200 merks. These lands are described as having been appraised from "Henry, now Earl of Stirling; John and Charles Alexander, his brothers; Andrew Alexander, and Master James Gordoun" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 235, fol. 263, Paper Register).

Owing to the lands of Tullibody being secured to Viscountess Alexander in liferent, the appraising of Sir Thomas Hope proved ineffectual; and accordingly, on the 15th September 1641, the entire estate of the insolvent earl was, by royal charter, conveyed for behoof of his creditors to Sir James M'Gill, one of the Senators of the College of Justice. In this charter the estate is described as embracing "the lands and barony of Tulliebody, in the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan; the lands of Gogar and Gorgus, in

the Sheriffdom of Perth; the twelve-merk lands of Gairtmore, in the Stewartry of Menteith; the lands of Cambusbarronie, called the Kerss, in the Sheriffdom of Stirling; the lands of Gartaverton-Lindsay, in the Stewartry of Menteith; and the lands and baronry of Menstrie; and the lands and barony of Tulliecultrie, in the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 234, fol. 260*b*).

On the 16th September, the day following the date of the preceding charter, a memorial was presented to the Estates of Parliament by William Home of Ayton; Sir James Baillie of Lochend, Baronet; Dame Magdalen Carnegie, Lady Lochend; and Sir Patrick Hamilton of Preston, praying "that as Harrie, now Erll of Stirling, and his sister, resided in England, authority might be given to the Sheriff of Clackmannan to proceed in the actions against the estate as if they were resident in Scotland." This memorial was resisted; for on the 24th September, the king being present, a "remonstrance was presented to the Estates by the creditors of the deceased earl and Lord Alexander, craving that inferior judges might be discharged from proceeding in any actiones before them, at the instance of any of the creditors against the aires and executors of the said Earl of Stirling and Lord Alexander" (Acta Parl. Scot.).

By the Estates the opposing petitioners were referred to a committee; and we next learn that, on the 27th June 1642, a charter of the earl's lands was

granted to Charles Alexander, his fifth son, empowering him to obtain infeftment in the same for behoof of the creditors (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lvii., 108).

As an administrator, Charles Alexander proved inefficient, and accordingly, on the 25th February 1644-5, the creditors complained of him to the Estates. The consequent proceedings are subjoined:

"Anent the supplicatione givine in to the Estates of Parliament now convened in the second sessione of the first trienniall parliament, be virtue of the last act of the last Parliament, haldine by his Majestie and the Estates in Anno 1641. Off the quhilk supplicatione the tenor followes: My Lords and otheris, the Estates of Parliament, Unto your Lordships humblie meanes and showes. We, your servitors, Dame Margaret Douglas, Ladie Alexander, for my selfe, and in name and behalfe of Katherine, Jeane, and Margaret Alexander, Doughters to umq[l] William, Lord Alexander; Sir James Baillie of Lochend, ky[t], and my tutores, for thair selves; Maister Alexander Kynneir of Forret; Mr Robert Bruce, Advocat; James Rae, merchand in Edinburgh; Maister Richard Maitland, attending the Erle of Lauderdaill; Mr Androw Oiswall, Advocat; Sir George Morristoun, kny[t]; Harie Dow of Arnehaw; Margaret and Elspeth Buchanans, bairnis to umq[l] William Buchanane in ; James Wood, son to umq[l] Patrike Woode, merchant in Edinburgh; Captain Robert Hammiltoun in Prestoun; James Nairn, merchant in Edinburgh; John Patersone, Kirk Thesaurer of the Canongait; Mr John Paip, younger, Advocate; Mr Robert Pelne, writter in Edinburgh; Mr James Fergusson, writter to his Majestie's signet; William Tofts, indweller in the Abbay of Halirudhous; Sir Williame Gray of Pittindrum, kny[t]; Johne Rynd, merchant burges of Edinburgh; Janet Alexander, and Walter Auchinmowtie, hir spous, for his intres; Bessie and Robert Alexander, bairnis to umq[l] Robert Alexander in Leith; Robert and Marione Whytes, bairnis to umq[l] Wuhyte in Clackmannane; William Thomsoune, Henrie Brown, and Alexander Bell, skipperes

in Leith; Dame Catherine Weir, and Sir Patrike Murray, hir spous; Mr Peter Hay of Nachtoun; Mr Robert Murray, proveist of Methven; George Murray in Dysert; Williame Broun in Seatoun; John Dryesdaill in Tullicoultrie; Janet Alexander and James Gib, hir spous, their; Thomas Burne, ther; William Alexander at the mylne theirof; Christian Harper, their; John Archibald in Tullibodie; Archibald Stirling, indueller in Stirling; David Nairn, burges there; Geilles Nairn and David Miller, hir spous, burges there; James Henrison, burges there; David Mellir, younger, ther; John Short, burges there; Janet Watesone, thair; John Mathesoun, thair; Robert Brown, burges thair; Andrew Baird, younger, burges thair; Walter Graham in Gartmorie; Walter Graham in Balmesay; William, Erle of Mortoun; John, Earl of Traquair; Sir William Murray of Dunerne, ky^{t}; Dame Anna Murray, his sister; Home of Ayetoun; Robert Keyth, writter to the signet; Thomas Leuchope, burges of Stirling; Mr James Gordoun, writter in Edinburgh; and the tutores and [curatores] of sae maney of them as are minores for their entres creditores to umq^{l} Williame, Erle of Stirling, and umq^{l} William, Lord Alexander, his sone. That, quhairas there being an great nomber of creditoures, to whom the saides umq^{l} erle and lord were debtoures in great soumes of money; and their estates, movable and unmoveable, not being able to satisfie us fullie our haill Debtes; And that ane great pairt of us, the creditoures, wer willing to take such satisfactione as their saides estates being justlie valued might give us, and that the pryce of the said estate might be distribute amonges us, the saides creditoures, equallie and proportionallie effeirant to the rate of our debtis, and wer willing to give doune a superplus, a few only of the saides creditores excepted, speciallie be minors be sample of their tutores and curatoris that would not consent thairto. Quhairupoun, and upoun other narratives made upoun the inconveniences that might befall to us and the said umq^{l} Erle and Lord their estates, be our contending and pleying thairanent again utheirs and otherwayes, there wes an action and summondes raised and intented, at the instance of Charles Alexander, ane of the lauffull creditors

of the saids umq[l] Erle of Stirling, his father, and William, Lord Alexander, his brother, aganes us, the haill remanent of the creditoures befoir the lordis of counsell and sessione, to the effect underwritten: Quhairin there was decreet givine be them upoun the twentie-fyfte day of Februarij 1643 yeirs; Decerneing ws, the saids creditoures to dispose our haill rightes and securities, now inherent in our persones, to and in favour of the said Charles Alexander, ane of the saides creditoures, and who, as creditor, standes heritablie infeft in their estait, and wes elected and instructed be ws, the said creditores, and authorized be y[r] Lordships to the effect he might compryse or adjudge the haill estaitte, moveable and unmoveable, lands, liveing, and otheris perteaneing to the saides umq[l] Erle and Lord, And obtain heritable ryghtes of the landes and otheris foresaidis, and sell the samen at the best availl, and gave power and commissione to the said Charles to sell and dispone theirwpon to that effect; and what soumes of money or pryces the said Charles Alexander should receive for the said estaite and landes, the saids Lordes decernit the said Charles to distribute the same amonges ws, the said haill creditoures *pro rata*, in sua farre as the samen will extend in maner and forme mentionat in said decreit, as the samene of the dait foresaid at mair lenth beires, &c.

"The said Charles Alexander obtenit decreits againes the aires of the saides umq[l] Erle and Lord, and adjudicatione for apprysing of their estaites and hes mellet, and intromitted with ther estates of landes, moveable and wnmoveable, and hes intromitted with and wptane the rentes and duties of these lands and estait thir divers yeeres bygane, and hes sold and disponit wpoun the great pairt of thir landes and estait, namelie, to Sir Rollocke of Duncrub, kny[t], the landes and barrony of Tullicoultrie, and certain otheris perteaneing to the saids umq[l] Erle and Lord, for the soume of money of this realme, received be him therefoir. Item to William Grahame of Spoildare, the landis of Gartmoire and some otheris thereabout, for the soume of money foresaid. . . .

"He hes made, nor intendes to make, no compt nor reckoneing

to us, to the effect the samine may be distributed amongst ws be him *pro rata.*"

On a report by the Committee of Bills, the Estates appointed a commission "to ordeane the said Charles Alexander to compt and reckone anent his intromissione with the pryce of the landes and others perteaneing to the said umq[l] Erle of Stirling and Lord Alexander" (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vi., part i., p. 333). What account, if any, Charles Alexander supplied to the Parliamentary commissioners is unrecorded; he became personally insolvent. The disposal of Lord Stirling's estates is stated in the records. On the 5th July 1643, a charter of appraising of the lands and barony of Tullibody was granted to Sir George Morieson, Knight; the lands are described as having "formerly belonged to Sir William Murray of Dunerne, Knight, Charles Alexander, son of the late William, Earl of Stirling, as heirs, and to Lady Margaret Douglas, Lady Alexander, as lady of the liferent thereof, and others" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., 336, fol. 368*b*). In 1648 the lands of Tullibody were acquired by Robert Meldrum, who was succeeded by Major George Meldrum, his brother. This gentleman in 1662 sold the estate to William Sharp,* Keeper of the Signet, along with the lands of Gogar, Perthshire, and of Brucklay, in Fife. By William Sharp, styled in the conveyance "Sir William Sharp of

* William, afterwards Sir William, Sharp, was brother of the celebrated James Sharp, Archbishop of St Andrews.

Stonyhill," the lands of Tullibody were, on the 18th April 1679, sold to George Abercromby of Skeith, who in 1694 disposed of them to his relative, Alexander Abercromby, second son of Sir Alexander Abercromby, first Baronet of Birkenbog. By his wife, Mary, daughter of Ralph Dundas of Manor, George Alexander of Tullibody was father of General Sir Ralph Abercromby, who fell at the battle of Alexandria, on the 28th March 1801. His widow was raised to the peerage as Baroness Abercromby of Aboukir and Tullibody; she is now represented by her great-grandson, George Ralph, fourth Baron Abercromby, who owns the lands of Tullibody (Tullibody Charter Chest).

The estate of Menstry was mortgaged to Mr Robert Murray of Woodend, Perthshire, minister first at Strathmiglo, in Fife, and afterwards at Methven, Perthshire, who, on the earl's embarrassments, foreclosed. Being a zealous upholder of Presbyterian polity, and a leader among his brethren, he incurred the resentment of the Marquis of Montrose, who wrecked the house of Menstry. By Mr Robert Murray, the lands and barony of Menstry were sold to General James Holburne,* who obtained sasine on the 28th June 1649 (General Reg. of Sasines). James Holburne of Menstry was subjected to imprisonment at Edinburgh for upholding the Covenant.

* A relative of this person, Colonel Robert Holburne, is described as "commander-in-chief of all the forces in Stirling," on the 27th August 1653, at which date he was elected a burgess of that burgh (Stirling Burgh Records).

Petitioning the Privy Council for liberation, he was on the 21st November 1667 recommended to the royal clemency; he obtained his liberty on granting a bond for 12,000 merks to keep the peace (Reg. Sec. Concilii Acta; Wodrow's History, vol. ii., p. 98). In the estate of Menstry he was succeeded by his eldest son James (Gen. Reg. of Sasines, vol. xxxi., fol. 221), who married Janet, daughter of John Inglis of Cramond, and had a son James, who was created a baronet on the 21st June 1706. By Sir James Holburne, Bart., the estate of Menstry was sold in 1719 to Alexander Abercromby of Tullibody; the present owner is his representative, George Ralph, fourth Baron Abercromby.

The Earl of Stirling's estate of Tillicoultry was in 1644 sold to Sir Alexander Rollo of Duncrub. It has frequently changed owners, and a saying in the district has long found popular credence that no heir born to the lands will ever obtain actual possession. The dispersion of Lord Stirling's estates is alluded to in these rhymes:

"Oh, Alva woods are bonnie;
Tillicoultry hills are fair;
But when I think o' the bonny braes o' Menstry,
It makes my heart aye sair."

Prior to the wreck of his father's affairs, Charles Alexander acquired a right to the Stirling mansion; he resided in it till his death, which took place about the year 1664. Subsequent to that event, the town

council of Stirling, who as patrons of Cowane's Hospital, held a mortgage for £1000 on the mansion, charged his son Charles to enter service as heir. On his declinature, the town council foreclosed, and took possession of the house. In the spring of 1665 proposals for its purchase were made by Archibald, ninth Earl of Argyle, and in September of that year, the Master of the Hospital reported to the town council, that "all the Earl of Argyle can be persuaded to give for Charles Alexander's hous adjudged to the Hospitall is onlie £1000, payable in four years' tyme, and bearing interest from Whitsunday last." The transaction was concluded in January 1666, when the council granted a disposition in favour of Lord Lorne "of that hous and ludging qlk perteinit to umq[l] William Earle of Sterling and umq[l] Charles Alexander his sone," on payment of £1000. The council appointed one of the magistrates and the Master of the Hospital "to delyver the keyes o' the hous to such as sall be appointed be the said noble Earle to receave the same;" and on the 30th June 1677 caused "Charles Alexander's band to be delett furth of the accompts, in regaird the Earle of Argyle has given band to the Masters of the Nether Hospitall for the soum of one thousand pounds in satisfactioune thereof" (Stirling Town Council Records).

To the Stirling mansion Lord Argyle added two wings—one on each side of the main entrance—also

a screen wall, pierced by an elegant archway. The Argyle crest was inserted in different parts of the structure. Within it the Earl of Argyle entertained, in 1680, the Duke of York, at whose instance, as James VII., he was beheaded five years afterwards. In the structure, John, Duke of Argyle, held his council of war prior to the battle of Sheriffmuir in September 1715. Within it, in 1746, the Duke of Cumberland passed a night, on his way to the north to crush the rebellion.

On behalf of John, fourth Duke of Argyle, the premises were exposed to sale on the 20th December 1764, and were then purchased for £560 by Robert Campbell, merchant in Stirling, and James Wright of Loss (Stirling Burgh Court Register). A portion of the grounds was sold for building purposes, and the mansion was, about the commencement of the present century, transferred to the War Department; it is now used as a military hospital.

Lord Stirling's creditors made no attempt to profit by his American possessions. When the French obtained occupation of Canada and New Scotland in 1632, the earl's connection with these territories virtually ceased. A large part of New England, including the whole of Long Island, granted him by the Plymouth Company in 1635, was in 1664 bestowed by Charles II. on his brother, the Duke of York; subsequently the French gained possession. These territories were included in the conquest of General

Nicholson in 1710, and were confirmed to Britain in 1713 by the treaty of Utrecht.

The personal character of Lord Stirling presents a twofold aspect. As a poet and private gentleman, he was admired and loved. Sir Robert Aytoun has celebrated him in an approving sonnet. In Latin verse he is lauded by the poets John Dunbar, Arthur Johnston, and Andrew Ramsay. Daniel in his "Philotas," Davies of Hereford in his "Scourge of Folly," Hayman in his "Quodlibets," Habington in his "Castara," and Lithgow in his "Pilgrim's Farewell," have severally commended him. Drayton names him with affection, and Drummond of Hawthornden esteemed and honoured him. As a politician, he might have acquired great distinction, but he sacrificed his fame by striving to maintain a rank which he was unwise to covet, and which two successive kings were sufficiently weak to bestow. That his intentions respecting the colonisation of New Scotland were sincere and upright may not be questioned; but losses in connection with the undertaking involved him in difficulties, to escape from which he had recourse to expedients which, if not wholly unwarranted, cannot be approved. By his ingenious contemporary, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty,* his public character has, in the following narrative, been pungently, but not unfaithfully portrayed:

* Tracts of the Learned and Celebrated Antiquarian, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty. Edinburgh, 1774, 12mo.

"As for such of the Scottish nation as of late have been famous for English poesie, the first that occurs is Sir William Alexander, afterwards created Earl of Sterling; he made an insertion to Sir Philip Sidney's 'Arcadia,' and composed several tragedies, comedies, and other kind of poems which are extant in a book of his in folio, entituled 'Sterling's Works.' The purity of this gentleman's vein was quite spoiled by the corruptness of his courtiership; and so much the greater pity, for by all appearance he had been contented with that mediocrity of fortune he was born unto, and not aspired to those grandeurs of the court, which could not without pride be prosecuted, nor maintained without covetousness, he might have made a far better account of himself. It did not satisfy his ambition to have a laurel from the muses, and be esteemed a king amongst poets, but he must be king of some new-found-land; and, like another Alexander indeed, searching after new worlds, have the soveraignty of Nova Scotia. He was born a poet, and aimed to be a king; therefore, would he have his royal title from King James, who was born a king and aimed to be a poet. Had he stopped there, it had been well; but the flame of his honour must have some oil wherewith to nourish it. Like another King Arthur, he must have his knights, though nothing limited to so small a number: for how many soever that could have looked out but for one day like gentlemen, and given him but one hundred and fifty pounds sterling (without any need of a key for opening the gate to enter through the temple of vertue, which in former times was the only way to honour); they had a scale from him whereby to ascend unto the platforms of vertue, which they, treading under foot, did slight the ordinary passages, and to take the more sudden possession of the temple of honour, went upon obscure by-paths of their own towards some secret angiports and dark postern-doors which were so narrow that few of them could get in till they had left all their gallantry behind them; yet such being their resolution, that in they would, and be worshipped upon any terms, they misregarded all formerly-used steps of promotion, accounting them but unnecessary; and most rudely rushing in unto the very sanctuary, they imme-

diately hung out the orange colours, to testifie their conquest of the honour of knight-baronet. After this manner, my Lord Sterling for a while was very noble; and according to the rate of sterling money, was as twelve other lords in the matter of that frankness of disposition, which not permitting him to dodge it upon inches and ells, better and worse, made him not stand to give to each of his champions territories of the best and the most; and although there should have happened a thousand acres more to be put in the charter or writing of disposition then was agreed upon at first, he cared not; half a piece to the clerk was able to make him dispense with that. But at last, when he had enrolled some two or three hundred knights, who, for their hundred and fifty pieces each, had purchased amongst them severall millions of New-Caledonian acres, confirmed to them and theirs for ever under the Great Seal, the affixing whereof was to cost each of them but thirty pieces more. Finding that the Society was not likely to become more numerous, and that the ancient gentry of Scotland esteemed of such a whimsical dignity as of a disparagement rather than addition to their former honour, he bethought himself of a course more profitable for himself and the future establishment of his own state: in prosecuting whereof, without the advice of his knights (who represented both his Houses of Parliament, clergy and all), like an absolute king indeed, disponed heritably to the French, for a matter of £5000 or £6000 English money, both the dominion and property of the whole continent of that kingdom of Nova Scotia, leaving the new baronets to search for land amongst the Selenites in the moon, or turn knights of the sun; so dearly have they bought their orange riban, which (all circumstances considered) is and will be no more honourable to them or their posterity than it is, or hath been, profitable to either."

Through his numerous offices and privileges, Lord Stirling would, with ordinary prudence, have overcome his colonial losses and become opulent. But, by coveting higher rank, he increased his family

expenses, while he constantly purchased lands on borrowed money. His latter expedients were more exceptionable than the first, and were altogether unworthy of his rank. As a poet, he had attained an elegance in advance of his age. Some of his longer poems are indeed disfigured by conceits, but his shorter pieces are refined and classical. His "Paraenesis on the Death of Prince Henry" is justly described by Pinkerton as "a noble poem." His compositions generally were commended by Addison, who was consulted respecting them by A. Johnston, who in 1720 began to edit a collected edition of them, which he did not complete. The whole of Lord Stirling's poetical works were in 1870-72 collected and published by Messrs Ogle of Glasgow, in three volumes, post octavo.

CHAPTER VIII.

WILLIAM, LORD ALEXANDER, ELDEST SON OF THE EARL OF STIRLING, AND THE DESCENDANTS OF HIS ELDEST DAUGHTER, CATHERINE, LADY TORPHICHEN: MENZIES OF CASTLE MENZIES; AND SHIRREFF OF FITZRAY, UPPER CANADA.

WILLIAM, eldest son of the Earl of Stirling, was born about the year 1604. He entered the University of Glasgow in 1618, his name appearing in the register as "Gulielmus Alexander, hæres Dom. de Menstrie" (Reg. Col. Glasg.). At the university he was privileged to receive instructions from Robert Blair, the eminent divine, then a regent of the college (Reid's Irish Presbyterian Church, vol. i., p. 139). Receiving the honour of knighthood, he was in the spring of 1628 appointed by his father governor of New Scotland. On the 26th March 1628, he received a pass, authorising him to proceed to sea with four ships for Newfoundland, the river of Canada, and New Scotland, for settling of colonies in those parts (Reg. of Letters). Returning from Canada in autumn, he, on the 25th December, "efter his returne from his sea voyage, gave to the puir of Stirling fiftie-aught pundis money" (Stirling Kirk Session Records).

On the 11th May 1633, Sir William Alexander received a royal patent for thirty-one years, "for the sole trade in all and singular the regions, countries, dominions, and all places whatsoever adjacent to the river and gulf of Canada, and the sole traffic from thence and the places adjoining, for beaver skins and wool, and all other skins of wild beasts" (Colonial Papers, p. 165). When his father in 1633 was created Earl of Stirling, he assumed the courtesy title of Lord Alexander. He was sworn as a member of the Scottish Privy Council in November 1634, and on the 20th December a royal letter was issued at Hampton Court, appointing him an Extraordinary Lord of Session in succession to his father. In 1635 he was appointed a Commissioner for Surrenders (Register of Letters and Books of Sederunt). On the 22d April of the same year he received a grant from the Council of New England, "of all that part of the mainland in New England from St Croix, adjoining New Scotland along the sea coast to Pemaquid, and so up the river to the Kiuebequi (Kiuebeck), to be henceforth called the County of Canada; also, Long Island, to be called the Isle of Sterling" (Colonial Papers, p. 204).

On the 29th March 1636, a contract was executed between Lord Alexander on the one part, and Mr James Gordon, one of the keepers of the Signet, and Mr Thomas Murray, advocate, on the other part, whereby the first assigned to the two latter his lease

of the teinds of the parish of Oldhamstocks (Register of Deeds).

Lord Alexander died at London on the 18th May 1638 (Register of Letters).

According to Sir James Balfour,* his body was embalmed and conveyed to Stirling, and there deposited in the family burial-place. His testament-dative and inventory were given up by George Douglas, described as "brother-german to Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie, knight," his effects being valued at £3023, 8s., while he owed the administrator 7650 merks. A second testament-dative and inventory we have abridged thus:

"Testament-dative and Inventar of the guides, &c., perteining to the deceast William, Lord Alexander, oldest lawful sone to the deceast William, Earle of Stirline, who deceast in the moneth of February 1640, faithfully made & given up by William Gordoune, servitour to John Beane, wrytter to the signet, only executor-dative decernit as creditor to the said vmquhile William, lord Alexander, in sua far as the said deceast Williame, earle of Stirline, and William, Lord Alex^{r}, abonė designed, be ther band & obligatioun, subscribit with their hands, daittit the xij day of August 1636 zeires, grantit them to have borrowit fra James Philpe, then seruitor to the said deceast noble erle, the sowme of j^{m} ij^{c} merkis Scottis, &c., which was to be repaid before Mertimes next, in anno 1636, with liquidat expenses & annual rent. Philpe, by assignation dated 8 March 1654, made Mr Harie Murray, son to Mr William Murray, his cessioner to this bond, who, by letters of translation, dated 24 March 1655,

* Balfour's Annals, vol. ii., p. 319. Sir James Balfour names March 1638 as the period of Lord Alexander's death. We have adopted the date, given in an evidently contemporaneous memorandum, attached to Lord Stirling's "Register of Letters."

made it over to the said William Gordoune. Gordoune therefore was appointed only executor to Lord Alexander by decreit of the Commissary Court of Edinburgh, dated — March 1656.

"There was resting owing to him the sum of £53, 6s. 8d. sterling, with expenses, by Thomas Kellies, esquair, by bond of 20 May 1639, amounting in all to viij^{c} lib. Scots. Summa of the Inventar—viij^{c} lib. No division. Mr James Gordoune, wrytter, cautioner" (Edinburgh Com. Reg., vol. lxviii.).

Lord Alexander married Lady Margaret Douglas, eldest daughter of William, eleventh Earl of Angus, and first Marquis of Douglas. On the 8th November 1641, she received from the Exchequer a pension of 4000 merks. She made, on the 29th December 1659, a disposition of her movable estate to her "beloved son-in-law," Walter, Lord Torphichen (Charter Chest in Calder House). She died on the 1st January 1660 (Wood's Douglas Peerage, vol. i., p. 441). In the testament-dative of Bailie Alexander Sandilands of Edinburgh, dated 29th March 1669, is the following entry: "Item, ther wes restand awand to the said defunct be my lady Alex^{r} principall, Walter, lord Torphichane, Johne, Lord Balgonie, and Mr Williame Douglase, Advocat, her cautioners, by bond, ij^{m} merks principall, with i^{c} xx^{lb} of bygane annualrentis, preceiding the terme of Whitsonday 1668."

Of the marriage of William, Lord Alexander, and Lady Margaret Douglas, were born a son, William, and two daughters, Catherine and Margaret.

William, only son of Lord Alexander, was born about the year 1632. He succeeded his grandfather

as second Earl of Stirling in February 1640, and died in May of the same year. Catherine, the elder daughter, married, April 1657, Walter, Lord Sandilands,* subsequently sixth Lord Torphichen (Charter Chest in Calder House). She died prior to the 13th February 1686, when, in a discharge by Robert Menzies, younger of that ilk, to her husband, in respect of her marriage-contract, she is named as deceased (Calder House Charter Chest). She was mother of two daughters, who survived infancy. Catherine Sandilands, the younger daughter, married David Drummond of Cultmalindie, the marriage-contract bearing date 29th April 1689; she died without issue.

Anne, elder daughter of Lord Torphichen and Catherine Alexander, married Robert Menzies, son and heir of Sir Alexander Menzies of Castle Menzies, their marriage-contract bearing dates 15th and 21st February 1684 (Calder House Charter Chest). Robert Menzies died in 1691, having predeceased his father, the first baronet. By his marriage with Anne Sandilands he had two sons, Robert and James, and two daughters, Christian and Catherine. James, the second son, became a captain in the army, and died without issue.

Sir Robert Menzies, Bart. of Menzies, elder son of Robert Menzies and Anne Sandilands, married his

* Lady Catherine Alexander was second wife of the sixth Lord Torphichen. He married first, Jean, daughter of Alexander Lindsay of Edzel, by whom he had no issue (Douglas's Peerage).

cousin Christian, daughter of Lord Neil Campbell, by whom he had a daughter, Christian, who married William Mackintosh of Mackintosh, and died without issue. A son, Robert, succeeded to the baronetcy, and married Mary, eldest daughter of James, Earl of Bute, but died without issue in 1786 (Deuchar's Pedigree of the Alexander Family).

Christian, elder daughter of Sir Robert Menzies and Anne Sandilands, married first, Patrick Stewart of Ballechin, without issue, and secondly, John Farquharson of Invercauld, to whom she bore a daughter, who died in childhood.

Catherine Menzies, younger daughter of Sir Robert Menzies and Anne Sandilands, married her relative, Dr John Menzies of the family of Culterallers, by whom she had two sons and a daughter. The daughter, Christian Menzies, married Henry Lundie, with issue, a son, Archibald, who became a Writer to the Signet, and died in 1838.

Robert Menzies, eldest son of John and Catherine Menzies, was a Writer to the Signet; he died without issue. Alexander, the second son, resided in Edinburgh; he married, and had a son, Robert, who died without issue, and a daughter, Barbara, who married Robert Shirreff, merchant in Leith. His son, Charles Shirreff, settled at Fitzray, Upper Canada.

In 1834, Mr Alexander Deuchar, an Edinburgh genealogist, produced a narrative or "report," in which he set forth that Mr Charles Shirreff, as repre-

sentative of the elder daughter of Lord Alexander, and the Duchess de Coigny and Robert Hepburne Swinton, Esq., as heirs-portioners of his younger daughter Margaret, were entitled to the American territories granted to the first earl. As William, second Earl of Stirling, made up no feudal title as heir of his grandfather in the American lands, Mr Deuchar held that the right of succession "devolved upon his two sisters, granddaughters of the first earl, who died last infeft." He maintained that the representatives of Catherine and Margaret Alexander were entitled to receive from Government the sum of £10,000, granted to the first Earl of Stirling in 1632, in satisfaction of his losses by the destruction of Port Royal —the sum, with interest, amounting to £110,000. Empowered by the representatives of the two daughters of Lord Alexander to act on their behalf, he despatched his son to Canada to institute further inquiries. In the spring of 1841, Mr Deuchar, junior, embarked at New York in the "President" steam-ship, which was lost with all on board. Mr Deuchar, senior, died not long afterwards. His report, an elaborate and not uninteresting document, is now in the possession of Mr Campbell Swinton of Kimmerghame, Berwickshire.

CHAPTER IX.

MARGARET, LADY SINCLAIR, YOUNGER DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM, LORD ALEXANDER, AND HER DESCENDANTS: HAMILTON OF BARGANY, DALRYMPLE OF NORTH BERWICK, DUCHESS DE COIGNY, KEITH OF RAVELSTONE, SIR PATRICK KEITH MURRAY, BART., SWINTON OF THAT ILK, CAMPBELL SWINTON OF KIMMERGHAME, SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART., OF ABBOTSFORD, AND HEPBURNE SWINTON OF SWINTON BANK.

MARGARET, younger daughter of William, Lord Alexander, became second wife of Sir Robert Sinclair, Bart. of Longformacus. In her contract of marriage she had settled on her 5000 merks, as a provision, her liferent interest in which she conveyed to her brother-in-law, Lord Torphichen (Charter Chest, Calder House). In a sasine dated 24th and 25th October 1672, Sir Robert Sinclair of Longformacus, described as knight baronet, advocate, settles on "Dame Margaret Alexander, his spouse, in liferent, an annual rent of 3000 merks, furth of the lands of the Lawes of Whitsum, in the parish of Whitsum and shire of Berwick; also furth of the lands and barony of Ellon, in the parish thereof and shire fore-

said" (General Register of Sasines, vol. xxx., fol. 307).

On the 23d July 1681, Lady Sinclair obtained infeftment in an annuity of 3600 merks, in virtue of a contract between her and Sir John Sinclair of Lochend, knight and baronet.

Of the marriage of Sir Robert Sinclair and Margaret Alexander were born three daughters. Catherine, the eldest daughter, was born in May 1673. She was baptized in presence of Walter, Lord Torphichen; Sir George Lockhart, advocate, afterwards Lord President of the Court of Session; and Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, the celebrated Lord Advocate (Edinburgh Baptismal Register). Catherine died young. The other daughters were Jean and Anne. Jean married the Hon. John Hamilton, Master of Bargany, by whom she had an only daughter, Johanna. She became first wife of Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castleton, son of the Hon. Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart., of North Berwick, third son of James, first Viscount Stair, Lord President of the Court of Session. Sir Robert predeceased his father, and left by his marriage with the heiress of Bargany three sons and two daughters.

John Dalrymple, the second son, had the estate of Bargany adjudged to him by the House of Lords, and thereupon assumed the name and arms of Hamilton of Bargany. He died without issue in 1796, when his estate devolved upon his nephew, Sir Hew,

third baronet. Robert, third son, became a physician; he died without issue. Of the two daughters, Marion, the elder, married the Master of Reay, and Elizabeth, the younger daughter, married William Duff of Crombie.

Hew, eldest son of Sir Robert Dalrymple and Johanna Hamilton, succeeded his grandfather in 1737 as second baronet. He held office as King's Remembrancer, and was M.P. for the county of Haddington. He died in 1790, and was succeeded in the baronetcy by Hew, his only surviving son, who assumed the additional surname of Hamilton on inheriting the Bargany estates. He married Janet, daughter of William Duff of Crombie, by whom he had four sons and three daughters.

Margaret Martha married Captain W. F. Browne, and died in 1849; Janet, second daughter, married Robert, Earl of Camperdown. Anne, third daughter, married Alexander Oswald, Esq., and died in 1820.

James, third son of Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton, married in 1815 Mary Christina, third daughter of Sir James Nasmyth, Bart., by whom he had an only daughter, Jemima. Robert —— Stair, fourth son, died in 1819.

Hew, eldest son of Sir Hew Dalrymple, third baronet, born 3d January 1774, married, 19th May 1800, Jane, eldest daughter of Adam, first Viscount Duncan of Camperdown, by whom he had an only child, Henrietta Dundas, who married in 1822 Au-

gustin Louis Joseph Casimir Gustave de Franquetot, Duc de Coigny, who died at Paris, 2d May 1865. The Duchess de Coigny has issue — Louise Jane Henrietta Emily, who married, 9th December 1846, John, tenth Earl of Stair; and Georgiana Jane Elizabeth Fanny, who married, 15th June 1852, Charles, third Earl Manvers.

Sir Hew Dalrymple Hamilton, fourth baronet, died 23d February 1824, and was succeeded by his brother, Major-General Sir John Dalrymple Hamilton, who married, 30th July 1806, Charlotte, only daughter of the late Sir Patrick Warrender, Bart., by whom he had two sons and five daughters. Helen Jane married, 1833, Alexander Maclean of Ardgour, Argyleshire. Georgiana married Lieut.-General Sir W. H. Sewell, K.C.B. Charlotte Sophia married, in 1836, Major-General John Clark, K.H. Janet married, 29th April 1847, the Rev. James George Curry Fussell. Patricia, the fifth daughter, is unmarried.

John Warrender, second son of Major-General Sir John Dalrymple Hamilton, married, 7th June 1847, Sophia, daughter of James Pattle, Esq., and has issue, Hew, Walter, and Virginia. Hew, the eldest son, born 21st November 1814, succeeded his father as sixth baronet, 26th May 1835. He married, 27th July 1852, Frances Elizabeth, only daughter of Robert Arkwright, Esq. of Sutton, Scarsdale, Derbyshire.

Anne, younger daughter of Sir Robert Sinclair, Bart. of Longformacus, and Margaret, third daughter

of William, first Earl of Stirling, married Sir John Swinton of Swinton, Berwickshire (who died in 1724), by whom she had four sons, John, Robert, Francis, and William, and four daughters, Jean, Margaret, Joanna, and Anne. Anne died young, and Margaret, the second daughter, died unmarried. Joanna, the third daughter, married Alexander Keith of Ravelstone, in the county of Edinburgh; he purchased the estate of Dunnottar in the county of Kincardine, and died in 1792. Of his marriage with Joanna Swinton were born four sons, Alexander, William, George, and Robert, and two daughters, Agnes and Margaret. Both daughters and the younger sons, George and Robert, died without issue.

Alexander Keith, eldest son of Alexander Keith and Joanna Swinton, became a Writer to the Signet; he succeeded his father in the estates of Ravelstone and Dunnottar. In April 1811 he married Margaret, fourth daughter of Laurence Oliphant of Gask, and sister of the Baroness Nairne, who died 10th September 1847. Alexander Keith died without issue in 1819.

William, third son of Alexander Keith and Joanna Swinton, was born in 1748, and died in 1803. By his wife Mary Anne Rae of Coldsheaf, he had four sons, Alexander, James, William, and John; and two daughters, Agnes, who died unmarried, and Isabella, who married James Wilson of Woodville, and died in 1837.

William, the third son, married Isabella Houison Craufurd, sister of William Houison Craufurd, Esq. of Braehead and Craufurdland, and died in 1851. John, the fourth son, died unmarried.

Alexander, eldest son of William Keith, born in 1780, succeeded to the estates of Ravelstone and Dunnottar on the death of his uncle in 1819. In 1822, on the State visit of George IV. to Scotland, he received the honour of knighthood, with the style and dignity of Knight Marischal of Scotland; he died in 1833. By his marriage with Georgiana Lamont he was father of a son William, who was born in 1815, and died in 1825, and of a daughter, Helen Margaret Oliphant, who married, 28th November 1833, Sir William Murray, Bart. of Ochtertyre, Perthshire, and died in 1853. She was mother of ten sons and three daughters. Her eldest son, Sir Patrick Keith Murray, Bart., born 27th January 1835, succeeded his father in the baronetcy in 1861; he married, first, in 1870, Frances Amelia Jemima, sixth daughter of Anthony Murray of Dollerie, Perthshire, who died in 1872; secondly, a daughter of the Hon. William Penney, Lord Kinloch.

James Keith, second son of William Keith, and grandson of Joanna Swinton, was born in 1783; he practised as a physician at Edinburgh, and died in 1863. In 1823 he married Christian Graham, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Maitland of Craigieburn, who died in 1870, by whom he had three sons, William

Alexander and Charles Maitland, who died in infancy, and Charles Maitland the second; also two daughters, Mary Anne, who died young, and Isabella Napier, who married, in 1845, the Rev. Thomas Lewis Trotter, rector of Great Stainton, and died in 1857.

William Alexander, eldest son of James Keith, M.D., born in 1828, is proprietor of Pogbie and vicar of Burham, Kent.

Jean Swinton, eldest daughter of Sir John Swinton of Swinton by Anne Sinclair, and great-great-grand-daughter of William, first Earl of Stirling, was first wife of John Rutherford, M.D., Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh. Anne Rutherford, her sole surviving child, married, in April 1758, Walter Scott, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh, and became mother of Sir Walter Scott, Bart.

Of the four sons of Sir John Swinton and Anne Sinclair, Robert, the second son, married Catherine, eldest daughter of Rutherfurd of Fairnylee. Francis, the third son, died abroad unmarried. William, the fourth son, settled in North Berwick.

John Swinton, eldest son of Sir John Swinton of Swinton and Anne Sinclair, was an advocate in Edinburgh. He married Mary, only daughter of the Rev. Samuel Semple,* minister of Liberton, in the county

* The Rev. Samuel Semple was minister of Liberton from 1697 to 1742, when he died in his seventy-sixth year. Under the auspices of the Lords of the Treasury, he collected materials for a history of the Church of Scotland, and obtained for his undertaking the sanction of the General Assembly. It was not carried out (Fasti Eccl. Scot.).

of Edinburgh, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Archibald Murray of Blackbarony. Of this marriage were born six sons, John, Samuel, Robert, Archibald, Francis, and Pringle, and six daughters, Elizabeth, Anne, Jean, Mary, Katherine, and Frances. The daughters Frances and Jean died young; Mary and Elizabeth died unmarried. Katherine, the fifth daughter, married Walter Ferguson, Esq., and died without issue. Anne, the second daughter, married Robert Hepburne of Baads. Their son, Robert Hepburne of Clerkington, married Isobel, daughter of John Mitchelson of Middleton, and had a son Robert; he married Miss Gordon, by whom he had several children.

Of the six sons of John Swinton of Swinton, advocate, Pringle, the youngest, died in infancy. Robert and Francis, the third and fifth, entered the service of the East India Company, and died abroad.

Archibald, the fourth son, Captain H.E.I.C.S., and aide-de-camp to Lord Clive, became proprietor of Kimmerghame, Berwickshire. In 1776 he married Henrietta, eldest daughter of James Campbell of Blythswood, by whom he had three sons, John, James, and Samuel Robert Archibald, and four daughters. Harriet died unmarried in 1864, Maria died unmarried in 1855, Agnes died young, and Elizabeth Catherine is still alive, unmarried.

James, second son of Archibald Swinton of Kimmerghame, lieutenant in the East India Company's

service, died at Madras in 1813. Samuel Robert Archibald, third and youngest son, perished in the wreck of the "Lady Burgess," East Indiaman, on the 20th April 1806.

John, eldest son of Archibald Swinton of Kimmerghame, assumed in 1850 the additional surname of Campbell on succeeding to his aunt, Mary Campbell, by whom the estate of Kimmerghame, which had been sold by his father, was repurchased in 1846. He married, in 1809, Catherine, only daughter of James Rannie, Esq., merchant in Leith, by whom he had two sons, Archibald and James Rannie, and four daughters, Catherine, who died June 1876, Mary, Henrietta, and Agnes. Agnes, the youngest daughter, married, in 1847, the Rev. George Murray, vicar of Dedham, Essex, by whom she has two sons and one daughter. Henrietta, the third daughter, married, in 1845, Henry Davidson, Esq., by whom she has three sons and one daughter.

Archibald Campbell Swinton, eldest son of John Campbell Swinton, succeeded in 1867 to the estate of Kimmerghame on the death of his father. He is an advocate at the Scottish bar, and was from 1842 to 1862 Professor of Civil Law in the University of Edinburgh. He married, first, Katherine Margaret, daughter of Sir John Pringle, Bart. of Stichill, by whom he has a daughter, Katherine Margaret. He married, secondly, on the 7th October 1856, Georgiana Caroline, third daughter of Sir George Sitwell,

Bart. of Renishaw, Derbyshire, and his wife Susan, eldest daughter of Craufurd Tait, Esq. of Harvieston, and sister of the present Archbishop of Canterbury. Of this marriage there are three sons, John Liulf, George Sitwell, and Alan Archibald, and one daughter, Alice Susan Lucy.

James Rannie, second son of John Campbell Swinton of Kimmerghame, married, in 1865, the Hon. Blanche Arthur Georgina, daughter of Lord de Ros.

Samuel Swinton, second son of John Swinton of Swinton, advocate, was a captain in the Royal Navy. He married, in 1766, Jean Felicitè Le Febre (who died in 1823), by whom he had four sons, Archibald, Samuel, John, and Richard, and two daughters, Felicitè Jean and Charlotte. Charlotte, the second daughter, married Dr Browne, physician in India; she died in 1857, leaving three sons, John, Clement, and Samuel, and five daughters, Anne, Charlotte, Georgiana, Mary, and Jessie. John, the eldest son, and Jessie, the youngest daughter, died unmarried. Mary, the fourth daughter, married Edward Colvin, Esq., of the Civil Service, Bengal. Georgiana, the third daughter, married Captain Hutton, of the Indian Army, and has issue. Charlotte married Sir George Lawrence, by whom she has had two sons and five daughters. Anne, the eldest daughter, married Sir Thomas Metcalfe, and died in 1842, leaving two sons and three daughters.

Clement, second son of Dr Browne and Charlotte

Swinton, is a colonel in the Indian Army. He has been twice married, with issue. Samuel, third son, a colonel in the Bengal Army, V.C., married his cousin, Lucy Sherwood, and has issue.

Felicitè Jean, eldest daughter of Captain Samuel Swinton, R.N., married Archibald Mitchelson of Middleton, by whom she had four daughters, Harriet, Caroline, Isabella, and Mary Anne. Harriet, the eldest daughter, married John Tait of Pirn; she died without issue. Caroline, the second daughter, married the Rev. John Hunter, D.D., minister of Swinton, and afterwards of the Tron Church, Edinburgh. Isabella, third daughter, married Colonel Hutchinson, of the Bengal Army, and left issue. Mary Anne, fourth daughter, married the Rev. Alexander Murray, and died without issue.

Archibald Swinton of Warsash, Hants, eldest son of Captain Samuel Swinton, R.N., was a captain in the Indian Navy. He married Louisa, daughter of the Rev. Henry Binfield, by whom he had five sons, Archibald, William, Edward, Samuel, and Walter, and five daughters, Louisa, Harriotte, Maynard, Caroline, and Margaret. The daughters Caroline and Harriotte are unmarried. Louisa, the eldest daughter, died at Geneva in 1829. Margaret, the youngest daughter, married John Buchan Hepburn, Writer to the Signet, and has a large family. Maynard, the third daughter, married Thomas Hog, Esq., and died in 1840, leaving four children.

Archibald Swinton, eldest son of Captain Archibald Swinton of Warsash, is a colonel in the Indian Army. William Swinton, second son, married Mina, daughter of John James Gibb, Esq., and has two sons and one daughter. Edward Swinton, third son, served as an officer of dragoons. He married Charlotte, daughter of James Mackenzie, Esq., by whom he has three sons and one daughter. The family has settled in New England.

Samuel, fourth son of Captain Archibald Swinton, was an officer in the 44th Regiment, and fell at the battle of Afghanistan in 1842. Walter, fifth son, is a colonel in the Indian Army.

Samuel, second son of Captain Samuel Swinton, R.N., purchased from his cousin the patrimonial estate of Swinton, in Berwickshire. He died at Swinton in 1839. By his wife, Isabella Routledge, he had three sons, George Melville, John Moncton, and Samuel Charles Alston, and five daughters, Anne, Mary, Eliza Charlotte, Isabella, and Jessie Bebb. Eliza Charlotte, the third daughter, married John Melville, Esq., and is mother of five sons. Mary, the second daughter, married, in 1822, Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart. Anne, the eldest daughter, married, in 1819, her father's cousin, George Swinton, secretary to the Government of Bengal, and succeeded by the death of her brothers to the family estate of Swinton. They have had issue five sons, Archibald Adam, Alan, George Keith, William Bentinck, and James Samuel,

and two daughters, Margaret and Harriet Mary Eliza. Harriet Mary Eliza, the second daughter, married Major Tulloh of Elliston, with issue.

Archibald Adam, eldest son of George and Anne Swinton, held an appointment in the service of the East India Company. He married, first, Lydia, daughter of Captain Eastgate, by whom he had one daughter, who married the Rev. Robert Home, minister of Swinton, and died 1875; and, secondly, Isabella, daughter of Henry Normand, by whom he has one son, George Herbert Taylor, and two daughters, Christian Margaret and Isabella Harriet. Alan, the second son, was in the Civil Service of the East India Company. George Keith, the third son, an officer in the Bengal cavalry, died in March 1854. William Bentinck, the fourth son, married Eliza, daughter of Robert Cadell, Esq., of Ratho, by whom he has had two sons and four daughters. He was killed by a fall from his horse in India in June 1876. James Samuel, fifth son, an officer in the Indian Army, died in India in October 1857.

George Melville, eldest son of Samuel Swinton of Swinton, held office in the East India Company's service. By his wife, Mary Prendergast, he had a daughter, who died unmarried. John Moncton and Samuel Charles Alston, second and third sons of Samuel Swinton of Swinton, died without issue.

John Swinton, third son of Captain Samuel Swinton, was a colonel in the Indian Army. He died in

1825, leaving a son, Charles, colonel in the Bengal Army. Richard, fourth son of Captain Samuel Swinton, was a colonel in the army. He died in India in 1828, leaving a daughter, who married Colonel Jacob of the Bombay Artillery; she died in 1853, leaving four sons.

John Swinton, eldest son of John Swinton of Swinton, was admitted an advocate at the Scottish Bar, in December 1743. He was appointed a judge in the Supreme Court, taking his seat as Lord Swinton on the 21st December 1782. He composed several works on the law of Scotland, including an "Abridgment of the Public Statutes;" he died on the 5th January 1799. By his wife, Margaret, daughter of John Mitchelson of Middleton, he was father of six sons, John, Samuel, Archibald, Robert, George, and William, and of seven daughters, Margaret, Mary, Isabella, Elizabeth, Harriet, Catherine, and Anne. The daughters Anne, Catherine, Harriet, Isabella, Mary, and Margaret died unmarried. Elizabeth, the fourth daughter, married the Hon. Colonel Carnegie, by whom she had a son, George, who died unmarried.

Of Lord Swinton's sons, Samuel, the second son, became colonel of the 74th Regiment, and died unmarried. Archibald, third son, a Writer to the Signet, died unmarried. Robert, fourth son, died without issue. George, the fifth son, was Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal. He married his cousin Anne, afterwards Mrs Swinton of Swinton, and died in 1854.

William, sixth son of Lord Swinton, was colonel in the East India Company's service. He married a daughter of Sir Robert Blair, by whom he had eight sons and five daughters. His daughters Isabella and Isabella Jessie died young. Charlotte Anne and Mary are unmarried. Eliza, the eldest daughter, married Donald Mackenzie Dunlop, Esq.

William, eldest son of Colonel William Swinton, served as an officer in the army. He was accidentally suffocated in his tent before Sebastopol, in January 1855. Robert, second son of Colonel Swinton, died young. John, third son, died in 1828. Edward, fourth son, an officer in the Royal Artillery, died in 1852. Robert Blair, fifth son, of the Madras Civil Service, married Dorothea Elizabeth, daughter of James Randall, Esq. George, sixth son, is an officer in the Royal Engineers. Anson and Arthur, seventh and eight sons, are officers in the Royal Artillery. Arthur married Helen, daughter of the late Colonel Murray Mackenzie.

John Swinton, advocate, eldest son of Lord Swinton, passed advocate, and was appointed Sheriff of Berwickshire. He married Mary Anne, daughter of Robert Hepburne of Clerkington, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. Isabella, the elder daughter, died unmarried. Margaret, the younger daughter, married the Rev. James Smith, minister of Kelso, and died without issue.

John, eldest son of John Swinton of Swinton, died,

in 1829, unmarried, when the estate of Swinton was sold to his cousin Samuel.

Robert Hepburne, second son of John Swinton, became proprietor of Swinton Bank, Peeblesshire; he died in 1852. By his wife, Julia, daughter of Thomas Harker, Esq., he had three sons and two daughters, Julia Frances and Mary Anne Jane; the latter married Benjamin Nicholson, Esq. William Murray, his youngest son, died unmarried in 1862. Robert Hepburne, second son, is commander in the Royal Navy. He married, first, Eliza, daughter of James Hunter of Hafton, who died in 1863, leaving a son, Robert Hepburne, and a daughter, Eliza Susan Eccles; secondly, Caroline Jane Ross, daughter of Henry Kendall, Esq., by whom he had one daughter, who died young; and thirdly, Alexa Hugh Monro, daughter of Colonel Campbell of Ormidale, by whom he has a son, John.

John Edulfus Swinton, eldest son of Robert Hepburne Swinton of Swinton Bank, served as an officer of the Indian Army. He died in 1871. By his wife, Frances Jane, daughter of Daniel Ainslie of Garth House, he left a daughter, Elizabeth, and a son, John Edulf Blagrave, who is now head of the ancient family of Swinton of that ilk.

CHAPTER X.

SIR ANTHONY ALEXANDER—HENRY, THIRD EARL OF STIRLING AND HIS DESCENDANTS: FAMILIES OF PHILLIPS LEE OF BINFIELD, AND TRUMBULL OF EAST HAMPSTEAD; THE MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE.

Anthony Alexander, second son of Sir William Alexander, first Earl of Stirling, was registered a student of the University of Glasgow, in March 1623. By a letter addressed to the Privy Council, in July 1626, Charles I. gave him leave "to proceed, for three years, on foreign travel, the better to qualify him for the gaining of languages and for otherwise doing his Majestie and his countrie service" (Register of Letters). While on the Continent he devoted himself to the study of architecture; and, in November 1628, the king's advocate was instructed to appoint him Master of Works, conjointly with James Murray of Kilbaberton, who, since December 1607, had held the office. The royal letter, authorising his appointment, proceeds thus:

"To the Advocat.—Trustie, &c. Whereas wee understand that Anthony Alexander, son to Sir William Alexander, Secretarie for that o^{r} kingdom, by his learning & travells abroad having acquired skill in architecturie, is able to do us service in the

place of Mr of our works there; And hearing likewayes that James Murray, Mr of Work, is willing to joyne the said Anthony Alexander with him in the said place, reserving the benefit thareof to himself during his lifetime; Our pleasure is that, after conference with the said James Murray, and his consent thereunto, you draw a grant, fitt for our hand, for both joyntlie to serve in the said place during thare lyves—they haveing all fees & priviledges justlie belonging or fitt to belong thareunto. And for your soe doing these presents shalbe your warrand.—At Whitehall, the 7th November 1628" (Register of Letters).

Consequent on the royal warrant, Anthony Alexander was, on the 1st April 1629, constituted Joint-Master of the King's Works and Buildings in Scotland. On the 31st July 1632, a royal letter was addressed to "the Treasurer and Deputie," requiring that "the Master of Works be properly paid monthlie." This order proving ineffectual, Anthony Alexander was, by a royal letter dated 2d February 1633, instructed "to wait on the Treasurer and his Deputie," that "he may be supplied with money." A further order for payment of his arrears was, on the 12th December 1633, addressed by the king to the Commissioners of Exchequer.

In October 1632, Anthony Alexander was admitted an honorary burgess of Stirling (Stirling Burgh Records). On the 9th January 1634, he and his former colleague, now Sir James Murray, were appointed "General Surveyors and Masters of Works," with a joint-salary of £1200 Scots. In 1635 he was knighted at Whitehall.

The renewed nomination of Sir Anthony Alexander

as Joint-Surveyor and Master of Works was opposed by the Scottish Lodge of Freemasons, who insisted that the office belonged to their hereditary Grand-Master, Sir William St Clair of Roslin.* Acting on their protest, the Commissioners of Exchequer delayed giving effect to the royal warrant. But Lord Stirling determined that his son should not be excluded from the emoluments of his office. He procured a royal letter, addressed to the Commissioners of Exchequer, charging them to see that Sir Anthony's gift do immediately pass the seals. In this letter, which is dated the 27th February 1634-5, the king instructed the commissioners to call before them Sir William St Clair, and to examine him as to his pretending "ane heritable charge over the maissons of our said kingdome." They were also to give order "that the Maissons be examined by the Magistrates of every town, and the Sheriffs of every schyre" (Reg. of Letters).

Sir Anthony Alexander died at London on the 17th September 1637 (Reg. of Letters). His body was embalmed, and conveyed by sea to Stirling, where, by torchlight, it was deposited in the family vault (Balfour's Annals, vol. ii., p. 251). In compliment to his memory, William Drummond of Hawthornden composed a poem, which appeared at Edinburgh, with the title "To the Exequies of the

* By James II. of Scotland, the office of Grand-Master Mason was conferred on William St Clair, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, Baron of Roslin, and on his heirs who should hold the barony of Roslin.

Honorable Sr Antonye Alexander, knight: A Pastorall Elegie." The poem follows:

"In sweetest prime and blooming of his age,
Deare Alcon, ravish'd from this mortall stage
The shepheards mourn'd, as they him lov'd before;
Among the rout him Idmon did deplore—
Idmon, who, whether sun in east did rise
Or dive in west, pour'd torrents from his eyes,
Of liquid chrystall, under hawthorne shade;
At last to trees and rocks this plaint he made:
Alcon, delight of heaven, desire of earth,
Off-spring of Phœbus and the Muses' birth,
The Graces' darling, Adon' of our plaines,
Flame of the fairest nymphs the earth sustaines,
What power of thee hath us bereft? What fate
By thy untimely fall would ruinate
Our hopes? O death! what treasure in one houre
Hast thou dispersed! How dost thou devoure
What we on earth hold dearest? All things good,
Too envious heavens, how blast ye in the bud?
The corne the greedy reapers cut not down
Before the fields with golden eares it crowne;
Nor doth the verdant fruits the gardener pull;
But thou are cropt before thy yeares were full.
With thee, sweet youth, the glories of our fields
Vanish away; and what contentment yields
The lakes their silver look; the woods their shades,
The springs their christall want; their verdure meads,
The yeares their early seasons; cheerful dayes
Hills gloomy stand now desolate of rayes;
Their amorous whispers zephires not us bring;
Nor do aire's quiresters salute the spring;
The freezing winds our gardens do deploure.
Ah, Destinies! and you whom skies embower,
To his faire spoiles his spright againe yet give,
And like another phœnix let him live.
The herbs, though cut, sprout fragrant from their stems
And make with crimson blush, our anadems.
The sun when in the west he doth decline,
Heaven's brightest tapers at his funerall shine,
His face, when wash'd in the Atlantick seas,
Revives and cheeres the welkin with new raies.
Why should not he, since of more pure a frame,
Returne to us againe and be the same?
But, wretch, what wish I? to the winds I send

These plaints and prayers, Destines cannot lend
Thee more of time, nor heaven's consent will thus
Thou leave their starry world to dwell with us :
Yet shall they not thee keep amidst their spheares
Without these lamentations and teares.
Thou wast all vertue, courtesie, and worth,
And as Sun's light is in the moon set forth,
World's supreame excellence in thee did shine ;
Nor, though eclipsed now, shalt thou decline,
But in our memories live, while dolphines streames
Shall haunt, whilst eaglets stare on Titan's beames ;
Whilst swans upon their christall tombes shall sing ;
Whilst violets with purple paint the spring.
A gentler shepherd flocks did never feed
On Albion's hills, nor sung to oaten reed :
While what she found in thee my muse would blaze,
Griefe doth distract her, and cut short thy praise.
How oft have we, inviron'd by the throng
Of tedioüs swaines, the cooler shades among
Contemn'd earth's glow-worme greatnesse, and the chace
Of Fortune scorn'd, deeming it disgrace
To court unconstancy? How oft have we
Some Chloris' name graven in each virgin tree,
And finding favours fading, the next day
What we had carv'd, we did deface away.
Woefull remembrances! nor time nor place
Of thy abodement shadows any trace
But there to me thou shin'st; late glad desires,
And ye once roses, how are ye turn'd bryers?
Contentments passed; and of pleasures chiefe,
Now are ye frightfull horrours—hells of griefe!
When from thy native soyle love had thee driven,
Thy safe returne prefigurating, a heaven
Of flattering hopes did in my fancy move ;
Then little dreaming it should atomes prove,
These groves preserve will I, these loved woods,
These orchards rich with fruits, with fish these flouds ;
My Alcon will returne, and once againe
His chosen exiles he will entertaine ;
The populous city holds him. Amongst harmes
Of some fierce Cyclops, Circe's stronger charmes.
These bankes, said I, he visit will and streames,
These silent shades ne'er kist by courting beames ;
Far, far off I will meet him, and I first
Shall him approaching know ; and first be blest
With his aspect : I first shall heare his voice ;
Him find the same he parted, and rejoice.

To learne his passed perills, know the sports
Of forraine shepheards, fawns, and fairy courts.
Now pleasure to the fields: an happy state
The swaines enjoy, secure from what they hate;
Free of proud cares, they innocently spend
The day; nor do black thoughts their ease offend;
Wise Nature's darlings, they live in the world,
Perplexing not themselves, how it is hurl'd.
These hillocks Phœbus loves, Ceres these plaines;
These shades the Sylvans, and here Pales straines
Milke in the pailes; the maides which haunt the springs
Daunce on these pastures, here Amintas sings;
Hesperian gardens; Tempe's shades are here,
On what the Eastern Inde and west hold deare.
Come then, deare youth, the wood-nymphs twine thee boughs
With rose and lily to impale thy brows.
Thus ignorant I mus'd; not conscious yet
Of what by Death was done; and ruthlesse fate,
Amidst these trances fame thy losse doth sound,
And through my eares gives to my heart a wound;
With stretched-out arms, I sought thee to embrace,
But clasp'd, amazed, a coffin in thy place.
A coffin! of our joyes which had the truste,
Which told that thou wast come, but chang'd in dust.
Scarce, even when I felt, could I believe this wrake,
Nor that thy tyme and glory, Heaven would break.
Now, since I cannot see my Alcon's face,
And finde nor vowes, nor prayers to have place
With guiltie starres; this mountaine shall become
To mee a sacred altar; and a tombe
To famous Alcon; heere as dayes, months, yeares,
Do circling glide, I sacrifice will teares;
Heere spend my remnant tyme, exiled from mirth,
Till Death in end turn monarch of my earth.
  Sheepheards on Forth, and ye by Doven rockes,
Which used to sing, and sport, and keep your flockes,
Pay tribute heere of teares; yee never had
To aggravate your moanes a cause more sad.
And to their sorrows hither bring your mandes,
Charged with sweetest flowers and pure handes;
Faire nymphes, the blushing hyacinth and rose
Spred on the place, his relicts doth enclose!
Weave garlands to his memorie, and put
Over his hearse a verse in cypresse cut:
'Vertue did die, goodnesse but harme did give,
After the noble Alcon left to live,
Friendship an earth-quake suffer'd, loosing him
Love's brightest constellation turned dim.'"

Sir Anthony Alexander married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Wardlaw of Pitreavie, without issue (Balfour's Annals).

Henry Alexander, Lord Stirling's third son, entered the University of Glasgow in March 1626. Connecting himself with mercantile affairs, he, on the 13th October 1634, received letters patent under the Great Seal, conjointly with Patrick Maule of Panmure, James Maxwell of Innerwick, and Sir Thomas Thomson of Duddingston, Knight, granting them the sole privilege, for thirty-one years, of exporting goods from Scotland to Africa. They were authorised to trade "with any part, beginning at the river Senegal, lying in 16½ degrees north latitude, and so along the sea shores in all rivers, lakes, ports and stations of ships, as well as on the continent as the islands by land and sea, comprehending Simla (Solyma?), Rielaga (Rio Lagos), Benny (Bonny), the isle of Prince, St Thomas, Cabo of Lepo (Cape Lopez), Congales (Congo), Angola, and all other places, rivers, and islands as far as the Cape of Good Hope, lying in 34½ degrees south latitude, or thereabout," and also to import goods from Africa to Scotland (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 15, fol. 15*b*, Paper Register).

On the 21st April 1636, the king granted to Henry Alexander, and his associates, with their "colleagues, James Birott, inhabitant of Agnasgrani, in Germany; Jerome Leswelt and Matthew Linnen, Belgians, in Western Africa," the exclusive power of trading with

the parts of Africa named in the preceding charter (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 109, fol. 132*b*).

On the 9th November 1636, Henry Alexander was admitted a burgess of Stirling (Stirling Burgh Records). About the same time, he was appointed Agent of the Convention of Royal Burghs. He married, on the 9th December 1637, Mary, youngest of the three daughters of Sir Peter Vanlore, Bart. of Tylehurst, Berkshire. The circumstances of the marriage are related in the following letter, dated 16th December 1637, addressed by the Rev. G. Garrand, afterwards Master of the Charterhouse, to the Earl of Stafford:

"A grandchild of Vanlove's (Vanlore's)—rich Peter Vanlove—was to be married to a son of Sir Thomas Read's; he who lay seven years in the Fleet, and spent but 18d. a-week; he lives now at Brockett Hall, near Hatfield. Read hath estated upon this second son of his £1500 a-year; and a match was intended with Mrs Vanlove, who had a portion of £4000, and £400 a-year after the death of her father, young Peter: Monday, the 18th of this month, they were to be married; the day before, in the afternoon, she sends to speak with one Mr Alexander, a third son of the Earle of Stirling, Secretary of Scotland here; he comes, finds her at cards, Mr Read sitting by her: she whispers him in the ear, asking him if he had a coach (he was of her acquaintance before), he said, yes; she desired Mr Read to play her game, and went to her chamber, Mr Alexander going along with her. Being there, she told him, that to satisfy her friends, she had given way to marry the gentleman he saw, but her affection was more to him; if his were so to her, she would instantly go away with him in his coach, and be married. So he carried her to Greenwich, where they were married by six that evening" (Strafford's Letters and Dispatches, ii. 141, 142).

The father of Sir Peter Vanlore was an opulent jeweller in London. A native of Utrecht, he traded in London in connection with the Heriots. An Exchequer warrant having, in August 1628, been granted to James Heriot, the king's jeweller, for £1150 as a portion of £8880 claimed, a petition was presented by Jacoba, Lady Vanlore, setting forth that a portion of the money was due to Sir Peter Vanlore, her deceased husband, whereupon she received a warrant for £7160 (Signet Office Docquet Book). Peter Vanlore first appears in the records in March 1616, when he is styled "of London, merchant." He had a discharge for £5000 paid by him for his licence to export 15,000 cloths, together with £2000 more paid by order of the Lord Treasurer Salisbury to the Earl of Dunbar. In the instrument of discharge, it appears that he had given a loan to the Earl of Dunbar, and supplied to the king both money and jewels (Signet Office Docquet Book).

In November 1621, James I. borrowed from Sir Peter Vanlore £10,000, which he delivered to Philip Burlamachi, merchant, to be conveyed to Sir Dudley Carlton, Ambassador President in the Low Countries. Sir Peter advanced a further sum of £10,000 for the like purpose, receiving 8 per cent. interest. He was repaid by an Exchequer warrant, dated 31st July 1625. In a discharge granted to the Duke of Buckingham for procuring royal jewels by the king's order, dated 23d November 1626, are named "two

fower-square table diamondes, bought of Sir Peter Vanlore, Knight" (Paper Office, Annual Grants, Charles I.).

Sir Peter Vanlore died prior to 1628, and was succeeded by his son, who bore the same Christian name. The latter acquired the manor of Tylehurst, Berkshire, by some alliance with the Kendrick family, and was, in 1628, created a baronet. He married Susan, daughter of Lawrence Becks of Antwerp; but died without male issue in 1645, when the title became extinct. Of his three daughters, co-heiresses, Jacoba, the eldest, married Henry Alexander, *alias* Zinzan, the elder. Susan, the second daughter, married Sir Robert Crooke of Elvachen, Bucks. The third daughter, Mary, married, as already shown, Henry Alexander, third son of the Earl of Stirling.

On the 7th June 1638, Henry Alexander, with his wife, Mary Vanlore, presented a petition to the Lord Treasurer, praying that he might be paid the sum of £1000, which Sir Peter Vanlore had bequeathed to each of his three grand-daughters (Calendar of State Papers). On the 11th January 1661, the husbands of the three daughters of Sir Peter Vanlore, Bart., entered into an indenture with Maurice Vanlore of London, only surviving son of John Vanlore, son of John Vanlore, brother of Sir Peter Vanlore, the elder, in regard to the settlement of certain property. To the indenture is appended the following note: "Be it remembered that the above-written, the right

honourable Henry, Earl of Stirling, did not seal and deliver the Indenture aforesaid to be his act and deed" (Close Rolls, Charles II., reign 13, part iv., No. 30).

Henry Alexander succeeded as third Earl of Stirling on the death of his nephew, William Alexander, second earl, in May 1640. He died in 1650, leaving by his wife, Mary Vanlore, an only son, Henry, who succeeded him as fourth earl; also, two daughters, Mary and Jane.

Mary Vanlore, Countess of Stirling, married, as her second husband, John Blount, a colonel of his Majesty's Horse, and who had obtained some distinction for his military services. In 1660, Colonel Blount, on behalf of Mary and Jane Alexander, daughters of the late Earl of Stirling, presented a memorial to Charles II., praying that the sum of £10,000, granted by the late king to the first earl, in compensation of his losses in New Scotland, and still unsettled, might be paid to his representatives. The memorial proceeds thus:

"To the King's Most Excellent Majestie, the Humble Petition of Col. John Blount, the Ladys Mary and Jane Alexander, Daughters of the late Earle of Sterline,

"Sheweth.—That Will^m^, late Earle of Sterline, Principal Secretary of Scotland, having, to his vast Expence, & the Wastenge of his whole estate in Scotland, Planted a Colony in Nova Scotia, and a peace beinge concluded between his late Ma^tie^ of euer blessed memory & the late French King, Nova Scotia was included in the Articles of peace to be rendered to

the French, by which the said Earle's whole fortune there was lost, for reparation whereof his late Ma^tie^ was graciously pleased to thinke himselfe bound in equity to relieve him, & grant his pattents for the reimbursement and payment of £10,000 to him & his assignes out of the Excheq^r^ and all other the proffits in Scotland, whatsoever that should first arise: But the warres ensuing there, and afterwards here, the said Earle and his Son, ffather to your petitioners, Mary and Jane, dyed before payment of the said £10,000; and your Pet^r^ John marryed Dame Mary, Countesse of Sterlinge, and disbursed for her necessitys and preservation of her Estate and her children, £2500.

"In tender consideration whereof, and for that £10,000 is all the expectancie and subsistance of your Pet^rs^ Mary and Jane, & to reimburse your Pet^r^ John, who faithfully served his late Ma^tie^ & your Ma^tie^ ever since the first warre in Scotland, and commanded your Ma^tie's^ owne Regiment of Horse, That your Ma^tie^ will be graciously pleased to grant your Letters Pattents for the satisfaction of the said £10,000, in proportion to your Pet^rs^ out of your Ma^tie's^ Receipts in Scotland or other wayes as your Ma^tie^ shall think fitt.

"And your Pet^rs^ shall ever pray, &c.

"WHITEHALL, 4*th December* 1660."

By the Earl of Lauderdale, Secretary of State, the memorial was forwarded to the Lord Chamberlain, with the following instruction:

"His Maty^e^ being sensible of the Pet^rs^ condition and sufferings, is graciously inclined to releive them, and is pleased to refer their case to the Right Hon^ble^ the Lord Chambirlane of his Ma^tie^ hous, that he may consider of their pretentions in equity to Nova Scotia, and to report what he conceaves fit to be done therein, whereupon his Maty^e^ will declare his further pleasure.

"LAUDERDAILL."

By the Earl of Manchester, Lord Chamberlain, was presented the following report:

"Petn of Coll. John Blount, &c., Read at the Committee, the 12th March 1661.

"May it please yor most Excellent Matie.—According to your Maties reference to me vpon the Petition annexed, I soe find, by the patent therein mentioned, of the late King Charles, your Royall Father of blessed memory, That William, late Earle of Sterline, did, by speciall order and command from his said Matie, according to Articles with the French King, render back to the French his plantation of Nova Scotia; in consideration whereof His said Matie conceived himselfe bound to relieve him, and gave him the said Patent for Tenne thousand pounds payable out of the first profitts of the Revenue of Scotland, which the Petitior affirms to be yett unsatisfyed; And therefore humbly conceive it equitable that the Petitiors may be paid the same, And in all humility submit it to yor Maties Royal consideration.

"Manchester."

Contemporaneously with the application of Colonel Blount, the guardians of Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling, submitted to the Privy Council the following memorandum:

"The Case of the Right Honble Henry, Earle of Sterline, Touching Nova Scotia, in America.

"King James, by his Letters Patents, vnder the Greate Seale of Scotland, beareing date 10th Dec. 1621, did give and grant vnto Sir William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Sterline, and his heires, all that County of New Scotland.

"King Charles, by his Infeoffment under the Great Seale of Scotland, of the 12th of July 1625, did give, graunt, and dispose vnto the said Sir William Alexander, his heires and assignes, All and singular the lands and dominion of the Signor of New Scotland, in America.

"King Charles, by his Letters Patents, vnder the great Seale of Scotland, beareing date the 3d of May 1627, reciteing the Infeoffmt aforesd, did graunt vnto the said Sir William Alexander

and his heires the Admiraltie of New Scotland, in America. Sir William Alexander afterwards dyed, Henry, Earle of Sterline, beinge his soune and heire, who is likewise dead, Henry, now Earl of Sterline, being his soune and heire. It is said that S^r^ William Alexander did in his lifetime, by the King's generall command, withdraw his Plantations in New Scotland. But if any such thing was, it was done vpon consideration of £10,000 to be paid vnto him by the King, haueing expended in settling the Plantation there above £20,000, which £10,000 are to this day vnpaid.

"It is humbly prayed by the now Earle of Sterline, that in regard the 10,000 li. remain vnpaid, and that the Sig^ve^ of New Scotland is now in the possession of his Majestie, that his Majestie would be pleased to continue vnto him the graunt of that Countrie.

"(*In dorso*).—The Case of the Earle of Sterline, touching Nova Scotia." *

Lady Mary Alexander, elder daughter of Henry, third Earl of Stirling, married Robert Lee, Esq. of Binfield, Berkshire. She died without issue in 1682. On the 12th April of that year letters of administration in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury were granted to her husband, Robert Lee, Esq.; she is described as "Lady Mary Lee als Alexander, late of St Martin in the Fields, co. Middlesex."

Lady Jane Alexander, second daughter of the third earl, died unmarried. Her will, dated 14th January 1707, was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canter-

* Writing in March 1760 to Major William Alexander, the American claimant of the title of Earl of Stirling, Mr William Phillips Lee of Binfield, nephew of the fifth Earl of Stirling, remarks: "The recovery of the American territories to the family proved too much for my uncle Lee, who often solicited in favour of the younger children of my grandfather, Stirling, but without success" (Life of Major-General William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, p. 45).

bury on the 1st March of the same year. She is described as of the parish of St James, Middlesex; she directed that her remains should be buried at Binfield, near the grave of her sister. She left rings of thirty shillings value to her nephew, Lord Stirling, to her niece, Lady Judith Trumbull, and to Sir William Trumbull; £10 to her brother-in-law, Robert Lee; £10 to her niece, Lady Mary Phillips, and to her husband a ring of thirty shillings value; also £10 to each of her nephews, Robert and Peter Alexander. The residue of her estate she bequeathed to her niece, Lady Jane Alexander, whom she appointed executrix.

Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling, only son of Henry, the third earl, married, first, Judith, daughter of Robert Lee, Esq. of Binfield. He married, secondly, Priscilla, daughter of Sir Hugh Windham, Bart., and relict of Sir Robert Reynolds of Elvetham, near Hartley Row, Hampshire. Sir Hugh Windham, a merchant in London, was a scion of the family of that name, owners of the estate of Trent, Somersetshire. He became the possessor of Pillesdon Court, Somersetshire, and was created a baronet on the 4th August 1641. He married Mary, daughter of Christopher Alanson, Esq., of London, and had four daughters, his co-heiresses. Priscilla, afterwards Countess of Stirling, was born 16th May 1626; she married, first, on the 23d May 1646, Robert Reynolds, Esq. of Elvetham, who was subsequently knighted

(Parish Register of St Mary, Aldermanbury); secondly, Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling. The marriage licence, which was issued at the Faculty Office on the 17th November 1683, proceeds thus :

"Harry Alexander, Earl of Stirling, in the Kingdom of Scotland, widower, & Dame Priscilla Reynolds, of Elvetham, co. Southampton, widow—to marry at St Mary at Hill, St Clement Danes, or St Paul's, Covent Garden, London."

The earl made the declaration in person, and subscribed it "Stirline."

Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling, died in February 1690; his remains were, on the 11th February 1690, interred in the family burial-place at Binfield (Register of Binfield Church). In his will, dated 13th June 1683, and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 27th May 1691, he nominated as his executors, Robert Lee, Esq., and his "dear sister, Dame Jane Alexander," to whom he bequeathed "goods, plate, jewells, and personall estate wheresoever and whatsoever, in trust, that they shall sell and dispose of the same to pay debts, and divide surplusage amongst all my children, except the eldest Lord Alexander." On the 24th November 1691, administration was granted in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the estate of "Priscilla, Countess Dowager of Stirling, late of Elvetham, co. Southampton, to her daughter, Dame Priscilla Knight, *alias* Calthorpe, wife of Reynolds Calthorpe, Esq."

By his second marriage, Henry, fourth Earl of Stir-

ling, had no issue. Of his first marriage were born six sons and three daughters. Henry, the eldest son, was born on the 7th November 1664; he succeeded his father as fifth earl, and lived in retirement. In the *Caledonian Mercury*, an Edinburgh newspaper, on the 2d October 1733, he is thus noticed: "On Sunday, the Right Honourable the Earl of Stirling of N. Britain waited on their majesties at court. It is remarkable his lordship was not at court since the second year of K. William III., choosing to live private, and is eighty years old. He was introduced by Sir Robert Walpole, and graciously received." In reality, the earl was in his sixty-ninth year. He died, without issue, on the 4th December 1739 (tombstone inscription in Binfield Church). He married Elizabeth, widow of John Hobby* of Bisham Abbey, Berkshire. His will, dated 28th February 1738-9, was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 13th December 1739. He directed that his remains should be buried at Binfield, near his aunt Jane, and his brother William, and appointed as his executors his sister, Lady Judith Trumbull, and his nephew, Robert Lee. Portions of his estate he bequeathed to his nephews, Robert Lee and William Trumbull, and to Richard Hobby, youngest son of

* An Act passed the House of Lords on the 20th May 1690 for "granting to Elizabeth, relict of John Hobey, Esq., and now the wife of Lord Alexander, son and heir-apparent of Henry, Earl of Stirling, on annuity, a yearly rent charge for her life in satisfaction of £500 per annum in lands which she was to have for her jointure" (House of Lords' Journal).

the late Sir Thomas Hobby, Bart. To his two nephews, Charles and William Phillips, he bequeathed £300 each.

William, second son of the fourth earl, was born on the 28th December 1665; he died on the 7th March 1665-6 (Binfield Church Register). William, second of the name, and third son, was baptized 6th June 1667; he died 24th October 1699. In the Register he is styled "William Alexander, Esq. of Turvill" (Burial Register of Binfield). Robert, fourth son of Lord Stirling, was baptized 9th September 1673; he died in October 1710. Peter, the fifth son, was baptized at Binfield on the 10th May 1677; he died in 1678. Peter, second of the name, was baptized at Binfield on the 23d March 1679; he died in London in November 1729, and was interred in St Anne's Church, Westminster (Burial Register, St Anne's, Westminster).

Of the three daughters of Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling, Jane, the youngest, married Ralph Stubbs, doctor of medicine. She died in 1729, when her husband administered to her estate, and at the same time, 17th October 1729, he also took out letters of administration *de bonis non* on the estate of her aunt, Lady Jane Alexander, to whom she was executrix.

Lady Mary Alexander, eldest daughter, married John Phillips, and had issue, three sons—Charles, Robert, and William. The two former seem to have died young. William, the youngest son, succeeded

to the estate of Binfield, when he added Lee to the family name. Lady Mary Phillips or Alexander was buried at St Anne, Soho, on the 27th March 1721. On the 4th April of the same year, letters of administration were granted on her estate to John Crookshanks, Esq., "curator assigned of her minor children, Charles, Robert, and William."

Lady Judith Alexander, second daughter of Henry, fourth Earl of Stirling, married Sir William Trumbull, the learned civilian and friend of Pope. Sir William was born at East Hampstead,* Berkshire, in 1636. Educated at Oakingham, and at St John's College, Oxford, he afterwards travelled on the Continent and practised as an advocate in Doctors' Commons. In 1671 he was appointed Chancellor and Vicar-General of the Diocese of Rochester, and in 1683 accompanied Lord Dartmouth in the expedition to Tangier as Judge-Advocate of the Fleet. On his return to Britain he was knighted, and in 1685 was sent as ambassador to France, where he relieved some of the distress attending the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. He was recalled in 1686, and sent on an embassy to Constantinople, where he remained till 1691. He obtained the confidence of William III., in whose government he became a Lord of the

* East Hampstead, an ancient regal mansion, was, in 1622 and 1623, occupied by James VI. Soon afterwards, the park was granted to William Trumbull, one of the clerks of the Privy Council, from whom it descended to Sir William Trumbull. It is now a seat of his descendant, the Marquis of Downshire (Burke's Visitation of Seats, 2d series, vol. ii., p. 151).

Treasury, attaining, in 1695, the office of Secretary of State. Consequent on a court intrigue, which led to the downfall of Lord Sunderland, he resigned his secretaryship in 1697, and thereafter retired into private life. He established his residence at East Hampstead, where he cherished the society of his learned contemporaries. He was attracted to Alexander Pope, a retired merchant at Binfield, by his remarkable skill in gardening, especially in producing artichokes. The son of this person was the celebrated poet. Sir William became acquainted with him in 1704, when he was in his sixteenth year, and, inviting him to his residence, made him his companion. Through his fatherly counsels, the poet was led to abandon certain habits of levity into which he had fallen. The translation of the Iliad was undertaken at his suggestion. Sir William continued the poet's attached friend till his death, which took place on the 14th December 1716. Pope has celebrated him in these lines :

> " A pleasing form ; a firm, yet cautious mind ;
> Sincere, though prudent ; constant, yet resign'd :
> Honour unchanged, a principle profest,
> Fix'd to one side, but moderate to the rest :
> An honest courtier, yet a patriot too ;
> Just to his prince, and to his country true :
> Fill'd with the sense of age, the fire of youth,
> A scorn of wrangling, yet a zeal for truth :
> A generous faith, from superstition free ;
> A love to peace, and hate of tyranny :
> Such this man was ; who now, from earth removed,
> At length enjoys that liberty he loved."

William Trumbull of East Hampstead, only son

and heir of Sir William Trumbull and Lady Judith Alexander, married Mary, daughter of Montagu, Lord Blundell, and died in 1760, leaving an only child, Mary, who married the Hon. Martyn Sandys, and left an only daughter and heiress, Mary Sandys, who married, 29th June 1786, Arthur Hill, second Marquis of Downshire. She was created Baroness Sandys in 1802, and died 1st August 1807. Her present representative is her great-great-grandson, the Marquis of Downshire, who holds the estates in England formerly possessed by the Earls of Stirling.

CHAPTER XI.

YOUNGER CHILDREN OF SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, EARL OF STIRLING: JEAN, VISCOUNTESS MONTGOMERY; MARGARET, LADY MURRAY OF DUNEARN; LADY ELIZABETH ALEXANDER; LUDOVICK AND ROBERT ALEXANDER, AND JOHN, CHARLES, AND JAMES ALEXANDER, AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

The Earl of Stirling was survived by his wife, Janet Erskine, on whom, by a royal warrant issued "at his Majestie's palace of Halyruidhouse, the eight day of November 1641," was settled "a yearlie pensioune of two hundreth pounds sterling." Subsequent to her husband's death, Lady Stirling resided at Mount Alexander, in Ireland, with her eldest daughter, the second Viscountess Montgomery. William Montgomery of Rosemount refers to a staff which she used subsequent to 1649, formed of a bow presented to one of the Montgomery family by Charles I. (Hill's Montgomery Manuscripts, p. 92).

Lord Stirling's family consisted of eight sons and three daughters. Jean, the eldest daughter, married Hugh,* afterwards second Viscount Montgomery of

* Hugh Montgomery, second Viscount, was eldest son of Sir Hugh Montgomery of Braidstane, who settled in Ireland, and was on the 3d May 1622 created Viscount Montgomery of the Great Ards, county Down. Sir Hugh was lineally

the Ards, Ireland. The marriage was solemnised on the 3d August 1623 in Kensington Church, London (Kensington Parochial Register). Lord Montgomery erected a family residence near Comber, county Down, which he named Mount Alexander in honour of his wife. He died at Newtown, Ireland, 15th November 1642. Lady Jean Alexander married, secondly, Major-General Robert Munro,* and died in the autumn of 1670, leaving by her first husband three sons and one daughter.

According to her son-in-law, the author of the "Montgomery Manuscripts" (Hill's edit., 403), Lady Montgomery inherited a portion of her father's genius,

descended from Robert Montgomery, brother of Alexander, second Lord Montgomerie, father of the first Earl of Eglinton (Burke's Dormant and Extinct Peerages, p. 378).

* Robert Munro was of the family of Fowlis in Kiltearn. He distinguished himself in Flanders, and afterwards in the war carried on by Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden against Ferdinand II. Of his services against Ferdinand, he has published an account in a work entitled, "Munro's Expedition with the worthy Scots Regiment, called MacKey's Regiment, levied in 1626, under the invincible King of Sweden, 1637." Returning to Scotland, he joined the Covenanters, and obtained a command in the north, with the title of major-general. During his northern expedition, he committed severe ravages on the estates of those who opposed the Covenant, and took many prisoners. Receiving a command in Ulster in 1642, he there continued the same predatory courses. In 1643 he received a commission under the new Broad Seal of England, appointing him commander-in-chief of the English as well as the Scottish forces in Ulster. On the 13th May of that year he surprised and seized the town of Belfast, a proceeding which was deemed a violation of an agreement between the English and Scottish Parliaments, which provided that Munro was only to occupy Coleraine and Carrickfergus. He experienced a humiliating defeat on the field of Benburb in 1646. Though the English Parliament remonstrated, Munro retained possession of Belfast till 1647, when he was seized by Monk and sent a prisoner to London. He was imprisoned in the Tower for five years. Obtaining the favour of Cromwell, he returned to Ireland, when he married the widow of Viscount Montgomery. He was alive in 1680 (Montgomery MSS., 168, 181, 199, 415).

which she exhibited by composing sacred verses. She was a zealous Presbyterian.

Elizabeth, only daughter of Viscount Montgomery and Lady Jean Alexander, married William Montgomery of Rosemount, author of the Montgomery MSS. She died on the 15th November 1677, aged forty-two. Her husband died 7th January 1706. Their family is represented in the female line by Major Frederick Campbell, late of the 50th Regiment (Montgomery MSS., 404).

Of the three sons of Hugh, Viscount Montgomery, and Lady Jean Alexander, Henry, the second, died young. James, the third son, was born at Dunskey in 1639. Hugh, the eldest son, succeeded his father as third Viscount Montgomery; he was created in 1661 Earl of Mount Alexander. Thomas Montgomery, fifth Earl of Mount Alexander, great-grandson of the first earl, died in 1757, when the family honours became extinct (Burke's Dormant and Extinct Peerages).

Margaret Alexander, second daughter of the Earl of Stirling, married Sir William Murray of Dunearn and Claremont, Fifeshire. The marriage was solemnised in Kensington Church, London, and in the register of that parish is recorded thus: "1620, Mr W. Murray and Mrs Margaret Alexander, daughter of Sir William Alexander, a Scottish knight, July the 20th." Sir William Murray was descended from that branch of the House of Murray which had been seated at Black-

barony, Peeblesshire, since the middle of the fifteenth century; he was created a baronet 1st July 1626. On the 12th November 1633, Sir William Murray and his wife, Margaret Alexander, "obtained ratification of a pension of £1200 Scots, granted them by his Majesty during their mutual lives" (Earl of Stirling's Register of Letters).

By his wife, Margaret Alexander, Sir William Murray had four sons, of whom William, the eldest, styled of Newtown, married a daughter of the first Lord Elibank, and succeeded to the baronetcy. The line of succession was afterwards continued through James, the youngest son of the first baronet. Sir James Murray, Bart., great-great-grandson of the first baronet, was a distinguished officer during the first American war. He married, in 1794, Henrietta, Countess of Batti in her own right, when he assumed the surname of Pulteney. He held the office of Secretary of War, and was colonel of the 18th foot and a general officer in the army. He died without issue on the 26th April 1811. The family is now represented by Sir Robert Murray of Claremont, a lineal descendant of the first baronet and his wife, Margaret Alexander (Burke's Peerage.)

Elizabeth, third daughter of the Earl of Stirling, died, unmarried, in December 1642. Her will was produced by her mother, styled "Dame Janet Erskine, Countess of Stirling," her only executrix. Francis, Earl of Buccleuch, was stated to be indebted

to her in the sum of £16,666, 13s. 4d. Scots. She bequeathed her entire estate to her mother. The witnesses to the will were her brothers Charles and James; Sir William Murray of Dunearn, her brother-in-law; and Sir W. A. Murray, his son (Edinburgh Commissariat Register).

Of the four younger sons of the Earl of Stirling, Ludovick, the seventh son, died after attaining manhood. A royal letter, dated Whitehall, 13th December 1634, addressed to all mayors, sheriffs, justices of the peace, vice-admirals, searchers, and all others, grants "permission to Ludovick Alexander, son of the Earl of Stirling, to repair unto France and to embark at any port with his two servants" (Reg. of Letters).

Robert, the sixth son, was incorporated a student of Glasgow College in 1634. He is in the University Register described as "filius Gulielmi Comitis Sterlinensis." He died prior to June 1638 (Baillie's Letters, vol. i., p. 76).

John, the fourth son, was matriculated a student in the University of Glasgow in 1630 (Reg. Col. Glasg.). On the 20th April 1635, he was, conjointly with his father, appointed Master of Minerals and Metals in Scotland (Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. iv., p. 60, Paper Register). He was afterwards nominated General of the Mint, an office which yielded his successor £500 per annum, with perquisites (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 237).

John Alexander married Agnes, only daughter of

Robert Graham of Gartmore, Perthshire. Robert Graham died in 1634. He was present at a court of the Stewartry of Menteith, held at Doune Castle on the 16th January of that year; and on the 9th October thereafter, Alexander Barclay, notary in Stirling, appeared before the same court as procurator for Agnes Graham, described as "lawful dochter of umq[l] Robert Graham of Gartmoir, and with consent of John Alexander, lawful son to ane noble and potent erle, William, Erle of Stirling, Lord Alexander, her spouse." Barclay presented "an inquest of our Sovereign Lord, directed to the Steward of Menteith, for serving Agnes Graham nearest and lawful heir to the said umq[l] Robert" (Register of the Steward or Seneschal of Menteith). Agnes Graham died some time prior to the 23d January 1636, when her husband, John Alexander, was, along with Lord Stirling, invested in that portion of the lands of Gartmore which had belonged to her. These lands were, at the instance of Lord Stirling, erected into a barony (Reg. Mag. Sig., *passim*).

A portion of Gartmore, on the death of Robert Graham, became possessed by his son Gilbert, who died in 1641. On the 31st October of that year, Alexander Barclay, notary, appeared before the Sheriff Court of Stirling, charging Janet Alexander, only daughter of John Alexander and the deceased Agnes Graham, to enter heir to her uncle in the lands of Gartmore (Sheriff Court Book, Stirling).

John Alexander ordinarily resided in his father's mansion at Stirling. On the 18th June 1639, William Ronald, messenger-at-arms, proceeded to his house at Stirling, "qr his wyfe, bairnis, and famillie dwellis," and there served him with a writ charging him for payment of 4800 merks Scots, borrowed by his father, the Earl of Stirling, from Robert Murray, and for which he and the late William, Lord Alexander, the late Sir Anthony Alexander, James Kinninmonth, Chamberlain of Fife, and Mr James Gordon, Keeper of the Signet, were joint-cautioners (Register of Apprisings, vol. iii., fol. 110).

In 1641 John Alexander was "put to the horn," and subjected to personal restraint. Having sought liberation from the Estates of Parliament, he obtained thereafter the following warrant, dated 12th August 1641:

"The quhilke day, the supplicatione givine in to the Parliament be Johne Alexr. craveing to be put to libertie furth of the Tolbuith of Edinburghe, wher he remaines incarcerat, be warrand from the Committie of Estates, being red in audience of the Parliament, and ye desyre therof considerit be them. The Estates of Parliament ordeanes the Jevellour of the said Tolbooth of Edinburghe to delyver the said Johne Alexander furth of there waird to Sir Johne McKeinzie,* in respect ye said Sir John McKeinzie is become actit, and hes obleidged himselfe to ye parliament to exhibit the said Jon. Alexander befor them within twentie dayes."

* Sir John Mackenzie was created a baronet of New Scotland on the 21st May 1628. He was son of Sir Roderick Mackenzie, brother of the first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail.

Not long afterwards, John Alexander resigned his office as General of the Mint. He was succeeded by "Master James Hope of Watterheid," who, on the 30th September 1641, received from Charles I. a life gift of the office, with a salary of £500 per annum, and "the free passage of three stones of the purest utter fine silver yearly, and the other powers, privileges, and liberties pertaining to the office" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv., No. 237, fol. 265*b*, Paper Register).

In the commission of James Hope, his successor as General of the Mint, John Alexander is styled "of Garthmure." He died in 1641, and in the year following the lands and barony of Gartmore were appraised by Charles Alexander on behalf of his father's creditors. They were afterwards sold to William Graham of Polder, to whom they were conveyed by a charter under the Great Seal on the 17th March 1645. In the Kirk Session Records of Port of Menteith, "Sir William Graham of Gartmoir" is named, in April 1668, as having been elected an elder of the parish.

Charles Alexander, fifth son of the Earl of Stirling, entered the University of Glasgow in March 1632 (Reg. Col. Glasg.). On the death of his brother John, in 1641, he was entrusted with the administration of his father's estate for behoof of his creditors. In 1647 Catherine and Margaret Alexander, daughters of the late William, Lord Alexander, granted him a discharge in respect of certain subjects

at Stirling (Stirling Register of Sasines). On the 9th June 1649, he assigned to John Schort, Commissary of Stirling, "that part of the lands of Cambusbarron called the Kerss," which had belonged to the Earl of Stirling, his father, and which had, on the 24th May 1647, been appraised from his nieces, daughters of Lord Alexander, for "default of payment of £1000 sterling, and of £800 annuity owed during the last seven years" (Reg. Mag. Sig., Paper Register, lib. v., No. 325, fol. 141*b*).

Charles Alexander married, and had a son, Charles, who, on the 23d May 1655, graduated in the University of Edinburgh (Reg. Col. Edin.). In the "Testament Testimentar of Dame Margaret Cockburn, Lady Clerkingtone," who died in September 1668, Charles Alexander, described as "sone to umquhile Charles Alexander, lawfull sone to the last Earle of Stirling," became cautioner "as ane act heires" (Edin. Com. Reg., vol. lxxiii.).

James Alexander, eighth and youngest son of the Earl of Stirling, entered the University of Glasgow in 1635 (Reg. Col. Glasg.). He became an officer in the army. He married, first, 16th August 1656, Margaret, daughter of Captain David Scrimgeour, by whom he had a daughter, Jean, who was baptized 3d September 1657 (Edinburgh Baptismal Register). On the 9th July 1658, he, on behalf of his daughter Jean, administered the will of her maternal grandmother, Jean Cockburn, relict of Captain David

Scrimgeour. He married, secondly, about 1668, Grizel, daughter of James Hay, younger son of George, second Earl of Kinnoull. By her he had a daughter, Margaret, baptized 23d June 1669, the witnesses being George, Earl of Linlithgow, and Sir George Baird of Newbyth, Senators of College of Justice, Sir Charles Erskine, Lord Lyon King of Arms, and Sir William Murray of Newtown (Edinburgh Baptismal Register). James Alexander was portioner of the lands of Rednock, Perthshire.

CHAPTER XII.

FAMILY OF SIR WALTER ALEXANDER.

Among those who followed James VI. to England on his accession to the English throne, was Walter Alexander, a scion of the House of Menstry. Walter Alexander was born at Stirling in 1572 (Funeral Certificate, College of Arms). He obtained the office of "gentleman usher, daily waiter," to Prince Henry, an appointment which only yielded him, at the outset, a salary of £20, with free board. From time to time he received special grants and emoluments. Having obtained, in February 1604, a patent of denisation, he was, in the same month, granted the life keepership of Folly John Park in the Forest of Windsor, "with the fee of fourpence per day, and the pasturage of the park," after the death or surrender of William Duck (Docquet Book of Exchequer).

Walter Alexander married, first, Sara Gray, a native of Scotland. On the 30th July 1604, he and Sara, his wife, received from the king, for their joint lives, a pension of £100 per annum (Patent Rolls). Early in November 1605, he married, secondly, Anne Fowles. On the 4th November 1605, the king

granted him at his marriage "one guilt cup and cover, bought of John Williams, forty oz." His Majesty also substituted the name of Anne Fowles in the grant of pension (Patent Roll, James I., iv. 18).

Anne, second wife of Walter Alexander, was daughter of Alphonsus Fowles of St James's, Westminster, Justice of the Peace. He was related, it is supposed, to Thomas Fowlis, goldsmith in Edinburgh, who, in 1593, granted goods to the value of £14,594 Scots for the royal permission to work the gold and other mines in Crawford Muir, and who, in 1613, was associated with Sir William Alexander and another in a grant of the mine at Hilderston. Alphonsus Fowles died on the 16th February 1634-5.

On the 6th January 1607-8, Walter Alexander was associated with his relative William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling, in receiving a patent for recovering and uplifting arrears of taxes due to the Crown, these amounting to £12,000, and of which the receivers were allowed to retain one-half as commission (Exchequer Warrant Book, vol. ii.).

On the 10th June 1621, Walter Alexander was, along with William Alexander, eldest son of Sir William Alexander, admitted an honorary burgess of Stirling (Stirling Burgh Records).

Among those who followed the court from Scotland to London in 1603 was the celebrated jeweller, George Heriot, and his half-brother, James. The latter suc-

ceeded George as court jeweller. James Heriot died on the 12th February 1623-4. In his will, which is dated 10th December 1623, he testifies his respect for Walter Alexander by nominating him an overseer in the administration of his affairs (Steven's History of Heriot's Hospital).

On the 4th February 1623, Walter Alexander received a royal patent, granting him and his heirs and assigns a thousand acres of the escheated lands of Ballynlagh, Lissafatt, Ballincunelle, Aghegreagh, Aghekimore, and Granard, all in the county of Longford (Patent Roll, James I., b. 20, iv. 8, Record Office, Dublin).

Those who received grants of escheated lands in Ireland were bound, within twelve months after obtaining possession, to erect buildings and plant a colony. Walter Alexander presented a petition, entreating an extension of time for the erection of his buildings, on which was presented to the Privy Council the following report:

"Maie it please y^{r} Hon^{ble} Lordships, Wee have considered of a peticon presented to his Ma^{tie} by M^{r} Walter Alexander, gent., Usher to the Prince. And whereas his humble suite is, that he may have some year or two space for finishing of certaine buildings upon three severall pportions of land in the County of Longford, containing in all 1000 acres, w^{ch} he could not accomplish within the tyme limitted by reason of the greatnes of those buildings, though, as he alledgeth, his fyne is paid, together with the Rent for the tyme past, and till materialls of his building be prepared. Forasmuch as the peticoner is a well-deserving gentleman, and of good meritt, we doe therefore humblie advise that your Lord-

ships would be pleased to move his Ma^tie^ for his gracious letters of direction to the Lo. Deputy, that the peticoner may have time till the feast of the nativitie of our Lord in the year 1625 for performing of his buildings, and that in the meantime no advantage be taken against him for his former omission, provided he enter into new recognizance in the Chancery for payment of his Rent, with the arrearages thereof, as also of his fyne, if any shalbe yett unpaide, and performing such other condicons as are required by his Maj^ties^ instructions for the building and planting of the said three several pporcons before the feast day aforesaid. And we likewise hold it fitt that during the peticoners absence from thence, he should continually keepe some substantiall person for his Agent, to dwell and be resident upon his said land.

"Sergeants In, Fleet Street, the 23 *January* 1623-4. JAMES KEY, WILLIAM JONES, ARCH. FORTESCUE, H. HOLCROFT."

By the recommendation of the Privy Council, a royal letter was addressed to the Lord Deputy of Ireland, permitting Walter Alexander to delay the erection of his buildings "till the nativitie of our Lord God, 1626" (King's Letters, Record Office, Dublin). The royal favour was further extended to Walter Alexander in respect to a lawsuit in connection with his Irish estates, as appears by the following letter from the king to Viscount Elye, Chancellor of Ireland:

"TO OUR RIGHT TRUSTY AND WEEL-BELOVED COUSIN AND COUNSELLOR, THE VISCOUNT ELYE, OUR CHANCELLOR OF OUR REALM OF IRELAND.

"Right, &c. Wee are informed that a suit has long depended in the Court of Chancerie in that our kingdome, between our servant, Walter Alexander, Esq., and S^r^ James Craig, knight, notwithstanding of divers letters written by oure late deare father

in his behalf, whereby our said servant hath been long frustrated of what is justlie due unto him. And now, in regard to his attendance hereon, he cannot convenientlie follow his suite otherwise than by his Counsell and agent. Our pleasure is, therefore, that you take care to put a final and speadie end unto the said business, that our said servant may finde the fruits of Justice, and your endeavour in the ready execution thereof, whereof we will take particular notice. So we bid, &c.

"WHYTHALL, 16 *of October* 1626" (Reg. of Letters).

On his Irish estate, as "undertakers," Walter Alexander placed four persons, namely, William Alexander, James Alexander, William Drummond, and James Philp (King's Letters, Record Office, Dublin). These seem to have speedily withdrawn, for in 1633 Walter Alexander sold the estate to Alphonsus Fowles, his father-in-law (Auditor-General's Department, Record Office, Dublin). In 1640 it was conveyed by Matthew Fowles to the trustees of the Earl of Westmeath (Patent Roll, Charles I., Dublin Record Office).

On the 19th November 1625, a warrant under the Privy Signet was granted to Sir Henry Hobart, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and others, authorising them "to seale and subscribe a lease unto Walter Alexander, gent. Usher, daylie wayter, of a ffarme or grange, called Henton Grange, with the appurtenances, in the county of Somerset, for the tearme of twenty-one yeares in reversion, after the determination of two lyves, being at the yearly rent of £49, 8s. 3d., reserved upon a former lease thereto

graunted unto him for eighty yeares" (Patent Roll, Charles I., part viii., 125). On the 10th of February 1626 Walter Alexander received a grant of Henton Grange for the period of ninety years, as an equivalent for a liferent to himself and his son Henry.

In a royal patent, dated 29th February 1629-30, it was provided that "the King's four Gentlemen Ushers, Dayly Wayters, Sir Peter Young, knight, Walter Alexander, Peter Newton, and William Glover," should, for their better advancement, receive largesses and fees on the creation of dignities. An archbishop, it was fixed, should, on his appointment, pay them £10, a duke £20, a marquis £15, an earl £10, a viscount £8, a bishop £5, a baron £6, 13s. 4d., a baronet £5, and sheriffs and heads of corporations £5. On the 7th December 1630, Walter Alexander was knighted at Whitehall. Of his history we obtain no further particulars till his death, which took place on the 2d April 1637. His remains were interred in St Margaret's Church, Westminster (Burial Register). His will, bearing date 29th March 1637, proceeds thus:

"In the name of God, Amen, A.D. one thousand six hundred & thirty-seaven, And in the thirteenth yeare of the raigne of our Soveraigne Lord, Charles, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, Fraunce, and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, &c., I, Sir Walter Alexander, of the parish of Saint Margarett, Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, knight, one of the gentlemen ushers unto the said king's most excellent Majesty, being now weake in bodie, but of good and perfect memorie, praise

therefore I give unto Almighty God, doe make my last Will and Testament in writinge in manner and forme following: That is to say, First and principally, I doe recommend my soule unto Almightie God, my Maker, & Jesus Christ, his sonne, my onely Saviour and Redeemer, by the meritts of whose death and pretious bloodsheddinge, my whole trust & confidence is to be saved and made partaker of the eternall kingdom. As concerning my Bodie, I recommend it to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executrix herein after mentioned. Concerning that Talent of warldlie means which it hath pleased God to bless me with, I doe give, bequeath, and dispose of the same in manner and forme following: Imprimis, I give and bequeath unto the poore of the said parish of Saint Margarett's, Westminster, the soume of Four pounds Sterling. Item, I give and bequeath unto my second daughter, Ann Alexander, nowe being unmarried, the soume of one thousand pounds of lawfull money of England, to be paid unto her att her marriage, or at her age of one and twenty yeares, which shall first happen. Item, I give and devise out of a lease of Two score and nineteen yeares made unto me by Alphonsus Fowle, Esq., of all those garden-grounds, sometimes parcel of one of those called or known by the name of Gravelpitts Close, and one parcel of meadowe-ground, to the said garden-ground next adjoining, called or known by the name of Five Acres, lying and being neere Totthill, in the foresaid parish of St Margarett's, Westminster; And all and singular, houses, edifices, and buildings, now standing and being in and upon the premises, demised and granted by the said Lease, Together with all Orchards, Gardens, Backsides, feeding meadowes, pastures, wayes, casements, and other commodities there, and every of these appurtenances thereto belonginge or appertayning, unto my lovinge wife, Dame Ann Alexander, for the better maintainance of herself and her children during the term of Forty yeares, if she happen soe long to live. And the residue of the yeares that shall remain unexpired of the said lease, at the tyme of her decease, I doe give and devise the same unto my eldest sonne, Charles Alexander. Item, I give and bequeath unto my sayd sonne, Charles Alexander, the soume of Threescore Pounds

of lawfull money of England, and unto my second sonne, Henry Alexander, the soume of forty pounds of like money, to be so paid unto them yearely, out of the rents, issues, and profits of the said Lands & Tenements and Buildings, by my said wife, Dame Ann Alexander, during the term of her naturall life. Item, I give and bequeath unto my said sonne, Henry Alexander, the soume of one thousand pounds of lawfull money of England, to be paid unto him within three months next, and immediately after the death of my said wife, Dame Ann Alexander, by her Executors and Administrators. Item, I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter now maryed, Lucie Herbert, the soume of fifty pounds Sterling. Item, I give and bequeath unto my servant, William Parman, five pounds Sterling; and unto my servant, Arthur Gascoigne, five pounds of like money; And unto my two mayd servants, Margerie Brook and Lettice Broughton, six pounds Sterling, equally to be divided between them. Lastly, I doe nominate and appoint my said dear wife, Dame Ann Alexander, sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, in whom I doe repose trust and confidence for the true performance of the same. And I doe hereby revoke all former & other Wills and Testaments by me hitherto made, And doe ordain this to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto sett my hand and seal, this nyne and twentieth day of March, one thousand six hundred and thirty-seaven, before these witnesses, W. Alexander. Sealed, published, and declared to be his last Will and Testament, in the presence of Robert Johnstone, William Parman, Henry Heron."

Dame Anne Alexander, wife of Sir Walter Alexander, died in 1638. In her will, which is dated 7th May 1638, she bequeathed £50 for the erection of a monument to her husband, in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, but the structure, if ever erected, has long since disappeared.

By his first wife, Sir Walter Alexander had no issue. By his second wife he had two sons, Charles

and Henry, and two daughters, Lucy and Anne. Lucy, the elder daughter, married, before 1637, Thomas Herbert, afterwards Sir Thomas Herbert, Bart. of Tintern, in the county of Monmouth, with issue. Anne, the younger daughter, married, before 1645, James Devonport, Esq., with issue (Funeral Certificate, College of Arms).

Charles Alexander, elder son of Sir Walter Alexander, died unmarried before 1665. Henry Alexander, the younger son, became cup-bearer to Charles I. His will is dated 18th April 1645, and was proved on the 28th September 1646. By his wife Marjory, daughter of John Noble of Midhurst, in the county of Sussex, he had two daughters, Barbara and Lucy. The former married Thomas Bulmer, the latter Captain Edward Harrington of Rand, in the county of Lincoln, and of the city of York (Sir Walter Alexander's Funeral Certificate, College of Arms). Lady Jane Harrington of Rand, and James and William Harrington, also of Rand, and John Harrington of Kelston, Somersetshire, are named among adventurers for land in Ireland in 1675 (Prendergast's Cromwellian Settlement in Ireland, pp. 431, 439).

CHAPTER XIII.

FAMILIES OF ALEXANDER AT STIRLING.

Among the members of the Convention of Royal Burghs, which met at St Andrews in January 1570, are named as one of the two commissioners from Stirling, "Robert Alexander, merchand" (Records of Convention of Burghs, i. 17).

In the inventory of the effects of Alexander Cunningham, fifth Earl of Glencairn, prepared in 1574, the deceased earl is described as indebted to Robert Alexander, Stirling, in the sum of £133, 6s. 4d. (Three Scottish Reformers, 9). In the General Register of Deeds, Robert Alexander, "burgess of Stirling," appears as granting an obligation to James Nicolson, writer, on the 8th October 1575 (Register of Deeds, xiv. 313*b*). Robert Alexander is, in a sasine dated 25th July 1576, described as "dene of Gild" of Stirling (Stirling Reg. of Sasines). A legal instrument, dated 8th October 1576, bears that "Robert Alexander, burgess of Stirling, compeirit personalie in presence of the Lordis of Counsall," and "gave in a bond subscrivit with his hand" (Register of Deeds, xiv., No. 313*b*, 2d). In the Register of Deeds

(vol. xxxviii., fol. 58) is a renunciation by "Robert Alexander, burgess of Stirling," and Katherine Moat, his spouse, of the lands of Levilandis, which had been wadset to them by W^m^ Hart of Levilands, and umquhile Thomas Hart, his father." Among those who sat in a parliament held at Holyrood on the 28th January 1593, "Robertus Alexander, pro Striveling," is named. From 1592 till 1599, Robert Alexander is included among the seven councillors chosen annually to the Dean of Guild (Stirling Guildry Records). In 1601 he is described as owner of the lands of Winchelhaughe (Stirling Town Council Records). He afterwards became insolvent. In relation to his bankruptcy, the following narrative appears in the Register of the Privy Seal (vol. lxxiv. 337*b*):

"Ane letter maid to Maister William Levingstoun, servitour to the Lord Saltoun, his airs and assignays, ane or mae of the gift of escheit of all guidis, moveable and unmoveable, dettis, raches, steadings, roumes, possessiones, cornes, cattell, insicht plenisching, actis, contractis, actiounes, obligatiounes, soummes of money, jewellis, gold, silver, cunzit and uncunzeit, and utheris guidis and geir quhatsumever, quhilk perteinit of before to Robert Alschinder, burges of Striveling, and now perteining to our souverayne Lord, fallin and becum in his hienes handis, and at his gift and dispositioun be reassone of escheit, throw the said Robert being ordinalie denuncit rebell and put to the horne be virtue of letters of horning, raisit and execut at the instance of Patrik Freeland, burges of Dumfermeling, cessionar and assignay, lauchfullie constitut be Beatrix Kinross, relict of umq^l^ George Freeland, son to umq^l^ George Freeland in Alloway, and to the Annual rent underwritten—for nonpayment to the said Patrik of the soumme of thirty-two pundis as of ane part of ane

annual rent of 42 pundis. Quhilk the said Beatrix hes to be yearlie upliftit during his lyftyme, &c. At Edinburgh, the nynteenth of Junij, the zeir of God 1605."

On the 6th January 1588-9, Agnes Alexander, daughter of Robert Alexander, co-burgess of Stirling, was, with her father's consent, contracted in marriage with James Wilson, burgess of the said burgh. Elizabeth Alexander, described as "dochter to Robert Alexander, burgess of Stirling," was, on the 7th June 1589, contracted to Archibald Alexander of Stirling, "brother to umq[l] Alexander Alschunder of Menstrie" (Kirk Session Records of Stirling).

Janet Alexander is, on the 24th May 1603, described as daughter of Robert Alexander in a conveyance of property to her father and herself by Archibald Alexander, bailie in Stirling (Stirling Register of Sasines).

On the 23d May 1603, "Robert Alschunder, in Reddoche," was admitted a burgess of Stirling (Stirling Burgh Records). He is named as a burgess in an instrument contained in the Burgh Register of Sasines, dated 6th March 1607. In the will of "Catrien Alexunder, spous to Mr James Kirk, servitour to the Erle of Argyll," which was confirmed at Stirling on the 13th February 1611, Robert Alexander, burgess in Stirling, is named as one of the witnesses (Stirling Com. Reg.). In a legal instrument, dated 28th June 1610, he is mentioned along

with "Margaret Laying, his wife" (Stirling Burgh Register of Sasines). Having attempted merchandise in Stirling without the sanction of the Guildry, he involved himself in strife with that body. In 1612 he was arraigned before the Guildry for violating its rules, and in 1615 was, on the charge of usurping its privileges, pursued at the instance of the procurator-fiscal (Stirling Guildry Records).

On the 27th January 1612, William Alexander, "sone to Robert Alexunder in Rednoch, was received as a neighbour burgess, and paid four lib. to the treasurer." On the 11th January 1613, he was admitted to the liberty of malt-making within the burgh (Stirling Town Council Records).

Bessie Alexander, second wife of Duncan Ronald, in Pepiltreis Mount, in the sheriffdom of Stirling, died intestate in June 1582. Her testament-dative and inventory were given up by her husband, her goods being valued at 608 lib. (Edinburgh Com. Reg.).

John Alexander and his wife, Christian Archibald, had, on the 21st April 1588, a daughter baptized, named Aunchell, and a daughter baptized, named Elizabeth, on the 9th March 1589 (Stirling Kirk Session Records).

David Alexander and his wife, Christian Gray, had, on the 31st January 1590, a son baptized, named Robert. The witnesses were, Robert Craigengelt of that ilk, and Robert Forrester of Boquhan (Stirling Kirk Session Records).

Marion Alexander, "relict of umquhile Andro Tailzeour, baxter burgess of Stirling," died in May 1591. Her testament-dative and inventory were given up by her son Thomas and her daughter Katherine. Her property was valued at 332 lib. 16s. 8d. (Edinb. Com. Reg.).

Christopher Alexander, one of the witnesses to the baptism of Elizabeth, daughter of Archibald Alexander, in March 1590 (Stirling Baptismal Register), was, on the 26th February 1607, admitted a burgess and guild brother as "his father's eldest son" (Stirling Burgh Records). He was the same year elected a magistrate. In 1615 he was chosen Dean of Guild, an office to which he was re-elected in 1616, and again in 1621 and 1622 (Burgh and Guildry Records). In August 1618 he was sent as commissioner to Parliament, and in the following year was appointed representative of the town council in the Convention of Burghs. In 1620-21, he held office as first bailie (Burgh Records of Stirling). He died in July 1623. The inventory of his effects was given up by his widow, Katherine Livingston, his moveable property being valued at 163 lib., irrespective of "monies due to him" (Stirling Com. Register).

The following minute of the town council of Stirling, dated 9th March 1612, shows that Christopher Alexander had a son Robert:

"In presence of the magistrates and council, Robert Alexander, son of Christopher Alexander, being accusit of disobedi-

ence, having refused to obey the Provost, who requested him to go out of the gate of the town to prevent a pley (quarrel) between Walter Forrester of Culmore and him; he said he would obey his father but not the Provost. And being charged by the officers to enter Tolbooth in ward, refused. Subscribed the minute consenting to pay 20 lib. for his disobedience, to be employed in works of the toun, and to pay 6 lib. *toties quoties* if he again offended. He had, when the Provost personally sought to apprehend him, myntit to have drawn his sword to the Provost" (Stirling Burgh Records).

Robert Alexander became a merchant-burgess in Stirling, and attained opulence. He granted large loans to Sir William Alexander of Menstry and his son William. On the 24th August 1623, Sir William Alexander and his son William granted to Robert Alexander, described as "merchant-burgess of Stirling" and their "guid freind," a bond for 4000 merks, the cautioner being Sir Robert Gordon of Lochinvar. The bond was registered at Edinburgh on the 26th March 1635, by decreet of the Lords of Session, at the instance of Agnes Alexander, second daughter of Robert Alexander, who is described as "now deceased" (Register of Deeds, vol. 484). On the same day, a bond by Sir William Alexander to Robert Alexander of Stirling, for £3080 Scots, was registered at Edinburgh, at the instance of Barbara Alexander, who is described as "eldest daughter of Robert Alexander, merchant-burgess of Stirling, and Robert Corser, merchant-burgess of Aberdeen, her husband" (Register of Deeds, vol. 491).

One of the witnesses to the baptism of Elizabeth,

daughter of John Alexander and Christian Archibald, in March 1589, is "John Alexander in Bannockburn" (Stirling Baptismal Register). He was probably son of James Alexander in Bannockburn, whose will is, on the 29th July 1574, registered in the Commissary Record of Edinburgh. He was, on the 23d January 1593, married at St Ninians to Agnes Thomson of Stirling (Stirling Marriage Register).*

The will of John Alexander in Balquhadrok (Balquhidder Rock), near Bannockburn, also that of his wife, Margaret Smyth, are recorded in the Commissariat Register of Stirlingshire. Margaret Smyth or Alexander died in March 1633. In her will she constitutes her husband, John Alexander, her sole executor, making bequests to her sons John and James, and her daughters Helen and Margaret. One of the witnesses is James Aissoun, husband of her daughter Helen.

John Alexander in Balquhadrok, husband of Margaret Smyth, died in October 1633. In his will he nominates as executors and intromitters his children, John, William, Margaret, and Helen, and their respective spouses. Helen Alexander, described as "spouse to James Aissoune in Balquhadrok, parish of St Ninians," died in November 1635; her goods were valued at £489, 2s. 8d. Scottish money (Stirling Com. Register).

* The Registers of Births and Marriages at Stirling, from 1596 to 1671, and from 1706 to 1717, having been lost, the descent of the different families of Alexander in that place cannot, during these intervals, be traced fully.

Janet Alexander (sister of John Alexander in Balquhidder Rock) died in September 1606. In her will, which was confirmed on the 20th May 1608, she is described as "spouse to William Murray in Balquidder Rok, within the parochin of St Ninian." She constitutes as her executors her husband, William Murray, and John Alexander, her brother. To her sister-in-law, Margaret Smyth, she bequeaths "a pair of rock-spun plaids and three kirtles and her claiths, and divides her remaining 'geir' between her husband and brother" (Stirling Com. Register).

On the 29th January 1641, Robert Alexander, son of William Alexander, maltman, was admitted a burgess of Stirling. Andrew Alexander was admitted a burgess on the 20th March 1652, on payment of the usual fee, conjoined with the stipulation that he was "not to make malt without libertie" (Stirling Burgh Records). In 1658, Robert Alexander, cordiner, was, on account of his poverty, allowed twenty shillings Scots weekly from the funds of the Nether Hospital. On the 14th August 1675, Robert Alexander was provided, at the expense of the hospital, with "ane suitt of cloaths, ane pair of new shoes and stockings, twa new shirts, and ane bonnett" (Town Council Records).

William Alexander, described as in Whinnes (of Milton), was, on the 3d January 1674, entered "neighbour and maltman, for 8 lib. as neighbour and 20 lib. as maltman, and 24 shillens for ane march stone, in respect he married a freeman's daughter." In 1682

and subsequent years, William Alexander, maltman, was placed on the inquest for regulating the price of provisions. He was, on the 9th September 1683, appointed "overseer of the maltmen." He is named as "visitor of the maltmen" from 1702 till 1705 yearly. By his wife, Elizabeth Robertson, he had a son Charles, baptized 4th December 1674, and two daughters, Jean, baptized January 1676, and Katherine, baptized 24th December 1678 (Baptismal Register of Stirling).

On the 11th December 1672, William Alexander and his wife, Agnes Edmond, had a daughter baptized, named Margaret.

In the Burgess Roll, commencing in 1700, appear the names of James Alexander, who entered as "hammerman" on the 6th August 1720, and of James Alexander, who entered as "merchant and maltman" on the 12th March 1726. The latter married Elizabeth Murray, by whom he had two sons and four daughters. William, the elder son, was baptized 23d January 1723; he married Janet Callander, 24th July 1763, and had two daughters, Elizabeth, baptized 24th May 1764, and Barbara, baptized 20th January 1772.

Thomas, younger son of William Alexander and Elizabeth Murray, was born on the 19th December 1734. Of the daughters, Barbara was born in 1724, Janet in 1727, Elizabeth in 1730, and Margaret in 1733 (Stirling Baptismal Register).

On the 4th October 1736, Charles Alexander was admitted burgess of Stirling as "a wright and neighbour." He was, on the 9th December 1738, married to Margaret Paterson, the marriage being solemnised by the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine. His family consisted of four sons and one daughter. Charles, the eldest son, was baptized on the 16th May 1742. Two sons, both named William, died in infancy. William, third of the name, was baptized on the 13th January 1749. The daughter, Margaret, was baptized on the 7th November 1739 (Stirling Parish Records).

On the 14th July 1753, William Alexander, son of James Alexander, was received as a burgess *qua* merchant. In 1755 Robert Alexander, son of James Alexander, was entered as a burgess *qua* maltman. On the 25th February 1809, James Alexander was admitted a burgess and guild brother. Charles Alexander was, in January 1812, elected a burgess *qua* baker. In 1820 John Alexander was elected a burgess *qua* maltman (Stirling Burgess Roll).

CHAPTER XIV.

FAMILIES OF ALEXANDER IN MIDDLETON OF MENSTRY, AND OF NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES.

John Alexander, second son of Andrew Alexander of Menstry, is mentioned with his brother Alexander in a sasine of Archibald, Earl of Argyle, dated 19th April 1541. He is also named in a sasine of Colin, Earl of Argyle, dated 7th October 1572 (Douglas's Peerage). He married Janet Sinclair, and died prior to 1575 (Acts and Decrees of Council and Session).

William Alexander in Middleton of Menstry is, in March 1611, one of the witnesses to the will of William Alexander in Westerton of Menstry (Stirling Com. Reg.). Malcolm and Alexander, sons of William Alexander in Westerton of Menstry, received at Stirling, on the 5th May 1663, a bond from James Snowell, merchant, for 200 merks (Stirling Register of Bonds).

Robert Alexander in Middleton of Menstry, and his wife, Bessie Alexander, had the following children baptized: James, in July 1702; John, in May 1705; Hugh, in February 1707; Adam, in January 1709; and George, in May 1713. Of these, James, the eldest, styled of "Middletown, Carse of Menstry,"

married Janet Hendrie, by whom he had five daughters—Margaret, born 1733; Mary, born 1735; Elizabeth, born 1737; Jean, born 1739; and Agnes, born 1741. John Alexander, the second son, married, on the 1st August 1738, Margaret Alexander. Hugh, the third son, married, in December 1733, Margaret Leishman, and had a son, Hugh, born in 1734, and a daughter, Margaret, born in 1737. George Alexander, fifth son, married, on the 9th November 1739, Mary M'Neil, with issue, a son, Robert, born 1748.

Hugh Alexander, son of Hugh Alexander in Middleton of Menstry, married Elizabeth Duncan, and had a son, Peter, born March 1773. James Alexander in Middleton of Menstry, and Margaret M'Kiall, his wife, had a son, William, baptized in December 1711. He married Janet Davie, by whom he had a son, George, born 1735.

When Major William Alexander of New Jersey sought to prove his descent from the family of Menstry, in order to assert his claim to the earldom of Stirling, his law-agent, Mr Andrew Stuart, Writer to the Signet, prepared a pedigree, indicating his descent from John Alexander, whom he described as promiscuously designed "in Middleton" or "Gogar," and as uncle of the first Earl of Stirling.* According

* "It is ascertained, from correspondence still preserved, that during these investigations (of 1759-60), and down to the very time of his service, he (William Alexander) was not resolved whether to claim descent from a brother or from a son of the first Earl of Stirling" (Swinton's Report of Mr Humphrys Alexander's Trial, p. v.).

to Mr Stuart, John Alexander "in Gogar or Middleton," was ancestor of his client's branch. But John Alexander "in Gogar" was not the same as John Alexander "in Middleton;" nor had the first Earl of Stirling any paternal uncle named John. John Alexander, portioner of Pitgogar, in the parish of Muckhart, Perthshire, paternal granduncle of the first earl, died in November 1595, leaving two sons, William and Robert (see *supra*, p. 16). John Alexander "in Middleton" of Menstry, son of Andrew Alexander of Menstry, great-great-grandfather of the first earl, may have been the progenitor of the American claimant. By Mr Stuart, John Alexander "in Middleton or Gogar," is described as having a son Alexander, who rented the farm of Milnab, in Strathearn, and had three sons—Alexander, David, and Patrick. The male line of Alexander, the eldest son, became extinct; Patrick, the youngest son, married, and had issue; David, the second son, designed "in Ward of Muthil," married, and had two sons and two daughters. Janet, the elder daughter, married Mr Macleish; Christian, second daughter, married Mr Caw in Crieff. William, the elder son, had an only son, William, who died without issue in 1747.

James, second son of David Alexander in Ward of Muthil, engaged in the Rebellion of 1715, and afterwards sought refuge in America. Excelling as a mathematician, he was appointed Surveyor-General at New York. He was, in 1720, chosen by Governor

Burnet a member of his council. Subsequently studying law, he acquired distinction as a pleader. With Franklin and others he was associated in establishing the Philosophical Society of America. He died in 1756. He married Mary, daughter of John Sprott of Wigtown in Scotland, widow of David Provoost, a prosperous American trader, by whom he had one son and four daughters. Mary, the eldest daughter, married Peter Vanbrugh Livingstone, merchant, New York; Elizabeth, second daughter, married John Stevens of Perth, Amboy, New Jersey; Catherine, third daughter, married Major Walter Rutherford; and Susannah, fourth daughter, married General John Reid of Strathloch, Perthshire, founder of the chair of music in the University of Edinburgh.*

* General John Reid of Strathloch, Perthshire, founder of the professorship of music at Edinburgh, was son of Alexander Robertson of Strathloch; he changed his patronymic on account of one of his progenitors being called Roy or Red, from the colour of his hair. Entering the army in 1745, he rose to the rank of general; he died on the 6th February 1807, at the age of eighty-five. Possessing a remarkable taste for music, he bequeathed £52,000 to found a professorship of music at Edinburgh, subject to certain provisions or liferents. Relative to the settlement between his testamentary trustees and the University of Edinburgh, the following advertisement appeared in the public journals in June 1841: "Pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Chancery in England, made in a cause wherein the Rev. Thomas Chalmers and others are plaintiffs, and George Kinloch and others, defendants, the children of William Alexander, late Earl of Stirling; Peter Vanbrugh Livingstone, by his wife the sister of the said earl (in the will of the testator, John Reid, late of Woodstock Street, Oxford Street, in the county of Middlesex, a general in her Majesty's army, and colonel of the 88th Regiment of Foot, who died in the month of February 1807 mentioned), who were living at the time; of Susannah Robertson, the sister of the said testator, and who died on or about the 31st day of May 1838; and the legal personal representatives of such of the said children as have since died; and John Rutherford, also named in the said will as the only son of Walter Rutherford by his

William Alexander, only son of James Alexander of New Jersey, was born at New York in 1726. After engaging in merchandise for several years, he joined the army; and attracting the notice of General Shirley, the Commander-in-Chief, was appointed his aide-de-camp and private secretary. When General Shirley was recalled to England in 1756, on the charge of neglecting his duty, Major William Alexander accompanied him, and bore testimony on his behalf. During his residence in Britain, he was persuaded to assert a claim to the earldom of Stirling. Employing as his agent at Edinburgh Mr Andrew Stuart, a well-known Writer to the Signet, that gentleman proceeded to seek evidence in support of his claim. But chiefly on the deposition of two old men, who affirmed his descent from John Alexander, "uncle of the first earl,"* a jury at Edinburgh, on the 24th March 1759, served him heir-male of Henry, fifth Earl of Stirling. Major Alexander now assumed the title, and had his claim recognised by Mr William Trumbull of East Hampstead and Mr William Phillips Lee of Binfield, nephews of the fifth earl, who entered into negotiations with him respecting their supposed rights to the territories in America, granted

wife, who was another sister of the said earl, if living, or his legal personal representatives, if he should be dead—are, on or before the 4th day of June 1841, to come in before William Brougham, Esq., one of the masters of the said Court, at his chambers in Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, and make out their claims, or in default thereof they will be excluded the benefit of the said decree."

* See *supra*, p. 279.

to the first earl. They subscribed a legal contract, by which they agreed to accept one-half the proceeds of these territories, the other half to belong to Major Alexander as Earl of Stirling.

Finding that the formal service of a jury at Edinburgh was insufficient to establish his right to the peerage, Major William Alexander presented a memorial to the king, praying for recognition of his honours. The memorial was, in the autumn of 1759, remitted to the House of Lords. On the 10th March 1762, the Lords' Committee of Privileges resolved that he had not established his claim; and further, that he "be ordered not to presume to take upon himself the said title, honour, and dignity, until his claim shall have been allowed in due course of law" (Journals of the House of Lords, xxx. 186). Prior to the promulgation of this order, Major Alexander returned to America; and though he did not further seek, by legal means, to obtain the recognition of his title, he continued to assume it, and made at least one attempt to assert his right to certain lands granted by the Council of Plymouth to the first earl. Having advertised for sale or lease two large tracts of land, Francis Bernard, Esq., Governor of Massachusetts, issued at Boston, on the 7th September 1768, a proclamation, declaring the intention of Government to protect the said lands, of which one is described as "situated on the east side of Penobscot river," and the other as situate "in the

eastern parts of this province, extending from St Croix to Pemaquid" (Turnbull's Report of Mr Humphrys Alexander's Trial, p. 5).

Residing at New York, Major Alexander was an active promoter of Columbia College, of which he became a governor. He was appointed Surveyor-General of New York, and a member of the Council of New Jersey. When a rupture between America and the mother country seemed imminent, he, in September 1775, accepted the colonelcy of a militia regiment, and was afterwards transferred to the command of two regiments of troops raised in New Jersey. In January 1776 he evinced military dexterity by capturing, with a small force, in the Bay of New York, a British transport of 300 tons. In March he obtained the chief command at New York, and proceeded to fortify the city and harbour. At the battle of Long Island, fought on the 27th August, he was taken prisoner by the British, but he regained his liberty by an exchange. As major-general, he was subsequently engaged in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth, the last fought on the 28th June 1778. He died at Albany, in the state of New York, on the 15th January 1783, aged fifty-seven. By his wife Sarah, eldest daughter of Philip Livingston, of the state of New York, he had two daughters — Mary and Catherine. Mary married Robert Watts, Esq., by whom she had a son, John, who practised as a physician in New York; Catherine

married Colonel William Duer, and had a son, William Alexander Duer, LL.D., who published, in an octavo volume, the "Memoirs" of his maternal grandfather.*

* The Life of William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, with Selections from his Correspondence, by his grandson, William Alexander Duer, LL.D. New Jersey Historical Society, 1847, 8vo.

CHAPTER XV.

FAMILIES OF ALEXANDER OF WESTERTON OF MENSTRY, MAINS OF MENSTRY, VILLAGE OF MENSTRY, BURNSTONES OF MENSTRY, INCLONEY, LONGCARSE OF BLAIRLOGIE, MYRESIDE OF MENSTRY, LOGIE, BLAIRLOGIE, WEST CAMBUS, TULLIBODY, OVER GOGAR, ALVA, TILLICOULTRY, BALHARTY, DOLLAR, AND ALLOA.

William Alexander in Westerton of Menstry died in March 1611. He executed his will on the 1st March 1611, in presence of Andrew Alexander in Stirling, Thomas Alexander in Wester Tillicoultry, William Alexander in Middleton of Menstry, and others. As his executors, he named Sir William Alexander of Menstry, his landlord, Mr Andrew Alexander, and his wife, Marion Murray, with Thomas Alexander in Easter Tillicoultry, and William Alexander, as overseers. The "summa of his free gear amounted to £742 Scots." Among his debtors were Sir William Alexander, of whom he held an obligation for 1000 merks (Stirling Com. Reg.).

Hew Alexander in Mains of Menstry died in 1651. His inventory, given up by his sons, Robert and William, showed that Malcolm Alexander in Menstry

was indebted to him in the sum of £666, 13s. 4d. Scots (Stirling Com. Reg.).

On the 23d August 1729, James Alexander, tenant in Mains of Menstry, received a disposition of the lands of Mains of Menstry from John Burn, and on the 19th November 1735 granted a disposition of the same to Alexander Abercromby of Tullibody (Lord Abercromby's Charter Chest). He married, in March 1717, Isobel, second daughter of William Alexander in Manor Neuk, who brought him a dowry of 500 merks Scots. He died on the 20th November 1767, aged about eighty-six; his wife died 27th May 1779, aged about eighty-eight. They left children (Family Papers).

William Alexander, feuar in the village of Menstry, married, 13th January 1677, Margaret Paton, of the parish of Alva (Alva Parish Register). They had a son William, baptized 16th August 1693 (Logie Parish Register).

William Alexander and his wife, Margaret Mitchell, had three sons—William, born 1730; Archibald, 1733; and John, 1751. Archibald married Mary Johnston, March 1760. John Alexander, described as feuar in Menstry, married, October 1786, Helen Burn (Logie Parish Register).

Hugh Alexander in Menstry and his wife, Janet Reid, had baptized, on the 25th March 1682, a daughter Margaret, who, on the 24th December 1716, married William Ramsay in Alva (Alva Parish

Register). By his wife, Janet Reid, Hugh Alexander had, in July 1691, a son Hugh, and in October 1692, a son Walter (Logie Parish Register).

James Alexander in Menstry and his wife, Janet Jamieson, had, in September 1692, a daughter Jean; in June 1695, a son William; and in March 1698, a daughter Elizabeth (Logie Parish Register).

William Alexander in Burnstones of Menstry had, by his second wife, Janet Meason, two sons—William, born April 1698; and John, born 1712. William Alexander in Burnstones of Menstry married, 1st January 1765, Janet Drummond, by whom he had a son John, born 1772.

In March 1779, James Alexander in Menstry and Margaret Paton were married. John Alexander in Menstry and Alice Downie were married in June 1781.

Robert Alexander in Incloney had, by his first wife, Anna Mitchell, a son William, born 1694; and by his second wife, Agnes Westwood, five sons—Thomas, born 1704; Robert, born 1709; James, born 1710; John, born 1712; and Robert, born 1716.

Thomas Alexander and his wife, Mary Leggat, had four sons—William, born 1724; John, 1729; Thomas, August 1732; and James, August 1735. William, their eldest son, married, in January 1755, Margaret Turner, and had a daughter Isabel, born 1757. John Alexander, the second son, became tenant in Longcarse

of Blairlogie. He married, in 1758, Mary Harrower, and had two sons—John, born April 1760; and James, born May 1768.

In March 1799, Thomas Alexander in Longcarse married Margaret Clerk. They had a son, Thomas, born 1812, and a son, William, born 1816. William, the younger son, now resides at Longcarse.

In July 1814, William Alexander of Longcarse had a son, Thomas.

James Alexander, fourth son of Thomas Alexander, became tenant in Myreside of Menstry. He married Margaret Peters, and had two daughters—Mary, born 1779; and Margaret, born 1783 (Logie Parish Register).

James Alexander in Logie, and his wife, Isobel Rae, had a son, John, born December 1747. He married, in 1773, Catherine Paterson.

William Alexander, son of Thomas Alexander in Logie, married, in 1749, Helen Burn. They had two sons—William, born 1752; and James, born 1757 (Logie Parish Register).

William Alexander, described as "in Whinfauld of Blairlogie," married, in 1794, Margaret Cree, and had four sons—John, born 1796; William, 1800; James, 1805; and Ebenezer, 1807 (Logie Parish Register).

James Alexander married, in 1785, Margaret Kinross.

William Alexander in Logie married Jean Thomson, 1761, and had a son, William, born 1763.

John Alexander in Menstry married Elizabeth Taylor, and had a son, John, born 1761.

John Alexander in West Cambus and Margaret Leishman were married in 1790, and had two sons—William, born 1792; and John, born 1796.

On the 10th February 1670, Patrick Menteith was served heir to his sister Agnes, spouse of Walter Alexander in Orchard of Tullibody (Reg. Mag. Sig., xxix. 288).

In May 1793, Peter Alexander in Blairlogie and Margaret M'Lauchlin were married. They had four sons—Hugh, born 1795; James, 1796; John, 1800; and James Spittal, born 1803. In September 1809 Andrew Alexander in Blairlogie, and Elizabeth Galloway, his wife, had a son, James, baptized (Logie Parish Register).

Malcolm Alexander of Over Gogar, in the parish of Logie, is mentioned, as one of his debtors, in the will of Hew Alexander, Mains of Menstry, who died in 1651 (Stirling Commissariat Register). Malcolm Alexander died in April 1670. His inventory, including a debt of 12 lib., due to him by "Alexander Alexander in Tulliecutrie" and others, amounted to 308 lib. 7s. 4d. Among his debtors were: Malcolm, son to William Alexander in Menstry, 100 lib.; James Alexander in Alva, 125 lib.; Helen Alexander, 8 lib.

In his will, dated 21st April 1670, he nominates Rachel Graham, his spouse, his only executrix, and

William Alexander in Menstry, eldest lawful son of his first marriage, and Archibald Graham, brother of his wife, as tutors to John, Andrew, and Malcolm Alexander, his sons by his second marriage. "John Alexander in Powis" subscribes the will as a witness (Dunblane Com. Reg.).

On the 6th April 1686, at Stirling, Malcolm Alexander, third son of the deceased Malcolm Alexander in Over Gogar, was served heir to Andrew Alexander, his immediately younger brother (Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. xxxix., 9).

John Alexander in Alva was married in November 1697.

Walter Alexander in Alva married Agnes, daughter of John Adam in Corspatrick, and sister of Isabel, who married William Alexander in Manor Neuk of Menstry. He was father of four sons—James, Andrew, John, and William. James, the eldest son, married, in December 1703, Marion, daughter of the late Robert Miller in Clackmannan. Andrew, second son, married, in August 1700, Ellen Moses. John, the third son, married, 28th October 1705, Mary Dawson. William, the fourth son, married 28th November 1707, Bessie Moses.

Among the descendants of these four sons of Walter Alexander, were John, who married Jean Alexander in December 1730; James, who married Helen Marshall in 1739; Andrew, who married Elizabeth Cairns in 1748; Andrew, who married

Janet Demperston in 1743; William, who married Marion Marshall in 1748; John, who married Janet Vicars in January 1766; William, who married Margaret Paton in 1769; Andrew, who married Anne Johnstone in 1778; and William, who married Jane Mitchell in 1819 (Alva Parish Register).

On the 11th December 1610, Thomas Alexander in Easter Tillicoultry obtained from James, Lord Colvill of Culross, a charter of the sixth of the town and lands of Wester Tillicoultry, called Corntown; a sixth part of the arable land on the front of the hill of Tillicoultry, with the right of pasture of one hundred sheep on the said hill (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlvii., 258). Thomas Alexander of Tillicoultry is mentioned in the will of William Alexander of Westerton of Menstry. He died in 1635. His will was in that year confirmed at Dunblane by his wife, Euphane Lambert, and their son, William. At the time of his decease he had belonging to him goods valued at 773 lib. 16s. 8d. Scots, "by and atour the guidis and gear in the prior confirmed Testament-dative, granted to Andro Alexander in Stirling, assignaye maid and constitute be ane noble earl, William, Earl of Stirling, creditor to the said defunct" (Dunblane Commissariat Register, 12th September 1635).

William Alexander, son of the preceding, resided in Millhouse of Tillicoultry. He married Elizabeth Blaw. At the baptism of his son Charles, on the 13th September 1642, Charles Alexander, son of the

Earl of Stirling, was present as a witness. He died on the 6th May 1651 (Tillicoultry Parish Register).

William Alexander is mentioned in connection with lands at Tillicoultry in the "Taxations of the County of Clackmannan," vol. iii., Nov. 23, 1621-1624. The Earl of Argyle is described as indebted to him in 500 merks. He died 14th March 1643.

Alexander Alexander, portioner of Tillicoultry, is named in a bond dated 1661 (Stirling Register of Bonds). He is mentioned as one of his debtors, in the will of Malcolm Alexander of Over Gogar, executed on the 26th January 1672 (Dunblane Commissariat Register).

Malcolm Alexander of Tillicoultry, and his wife, Isobel Alexander, had, on the 3d March 1661, a daughter baptized, called Isobel (Tillicoultry Parish Register). On the 30th May 1656, Isobel Alexander in Tillicoultry obtained service as heir to John Alexander, her father's brother (Reg. Mag. Sig., xxiv. 3).

James Alexander in Alva had a son, James, baptized on the 15th February 1658, and a son, John, on the 25th March 1670 (Alva Parish Register).

Thomas Alexander in the parish of Tillicoultry, described as "tenant in Bents," married, 5th March 1748, Christian Sharp, and on the 1st April 1764 had a daughter, Janet (Clackmannan Parish Register).

In the Parish Register of Tillicoultry is named, on the 28th November 1641, "James Alexander, portioner of Balharty."

Adam Alexander in Easter Bank of Dollar died in April 1610; he executed his will on the 10th day of that month, in presence of William Alexander and other witnesses. His "free gear amounted to £480, 13s. 4d. Scots." He appointed William Alexander as tutor and overseer to his children, Adam, William, and Janet. Andrew Alexander, "bruther to the guidman of Menstrie," became cautioner in the confirmation (Stirling Com. Reg., vol. i.).

James Alexander of the parish of Alloa was married on the 20th July 1613. Robert Alexander, styled "son to umq[1] John Alexander in Cuik-hill," Alloa, and Isobel Chrystie, daughter to umq[1] Andrew Chrystie in Alloa, were married on the 5th September 1615.

In May 1636, James Alexander, styled "in Woodhead of Alloa," and his wife, Bessie Sands, had a son, Alexander, baptized. Alexander Alexander, wright in Alloa, is named in the years 1691 and 1693 in the Regality Book of Alloa, vol. i.

John Alexander of the parish of Alloa and Margaret Anderson, his wife, had, in October 1636, a daughter baptized Janet.

John Alexander, a native of Alloa, graduated in the University of St Andrews on the 27th July 1661. Obtaining licence to preach from the Bishop of Edinburgh in May 1666, he was, on the 16th January 1668, ordained minister of Criech, Sutherlandshire. In 1682 he was translated to the parish of Kildrummy, Aberdeenshire. For joining in the Earl of Mar's

rebellion of 1715, and praying for the Chevalier St George, he was, on the 3d April 1717, deprived of his ministerial office. He died in August 1717, aged about seventy-six (Fasti Eccl. Scot.).

John Alexander, son of the minister of Kildrummy, was appointed minister of the Scottish Episcopal church at Alloa. On the 9th August 1743 he was consecrated Bishop of Dunkeld. He erected a chapel for Episcopal worship at Alloa, which he bequeathed to his successors. He died at Alloa on the 24th April 1776, at the age of eighty-two. A monumental tablet in the Episcopal church of Alloa commemorates his virtues (Fasti Eccl. Scot.; Keith's Scottish Bishops; New Stat. Acc. of Alloa).

In December 1650 was born, William, son of William Alexander in Alloa and his wife Margaret Short. In February 1660, James Alexander in Alloa married Janet Fairneford in the parish of Clackmannan (Alloa Parish Register).

John Alexander, maltman in Alloa, is named in the Book of the Regality in 1684.

In September 1688, Malcolm Alexander in Alloa and Marjory Bruce of Clackmannan were married (Clackmannan Parish Register).

On the 22d December 1686, Alexander Alexander in Alloa and Margaret Walker of Clackmannan were married at Prestonpans (Clackmannan Parish Register). This family settled at Prestonpans. Thomas Alexander, C.B., Director-General of the Medical

Department of the British Army, was born at Prestonpans on the 6th May 1812, and died 1st February 1860. He is commemorated by a monument in his native village. His father, William Alexander, salt manufacturer in Prestonpans, died on the 26th February 1865, aged seventy-nine.

Malcolm Alexander, third son of Malcolm Alexander in Over Gogar, became a trader in Alloa. He is mentioned in the Book of Regality of Alloa in 1685 and 1693 (Book of Regality, vol. i.). He married, in September 1673, Janet Marshall in Alloa, and had a son, Thomas, born October 1692.

John Alexander was, on the 12th November 1718, served heir to his father, John Alexander, meal dealer, in a portion of ground at Alloa. On the 6th December 1743, Malcolm Alexander, merchant in Alloa, son of Malcolm Alexander in Garienoch of Menstry, was served heir to his brother Andrew, who died heir of conquest in 750 merks over the lands of Gogar (Decennial Indexes to Services of Heirs).

CHAPTER XVI.

FAMILIES OF ALEXANDER OF CLACKMANNAN AND KINCARDINE-ON-FORTH.

In the parish register of Clackmannan the family name of Alexander first appears under the following entry: "March 16th, 1634.—John Alexander and Margaret Anderson, both in this parish, proclaimed."

The banns of marriage of a John Alexander in the parish of Clackmannan, and of Bessie Henrysone in the parish of Alloa, were proclaimed on the 5th April 1646 (Clackmannan Parish Register). They had a son, John, born in May 1649 (Alloa Parish Register).

George Alexander in Clackmannan married, 24th December 1691, Elizabeth Mitchell, by whom he had three sons—William, born 1705; Robert, born 1708; and Alexander, born 1712. William married Janet Davie, and had a son, William, born 1728.

William Alexander, afterwards described as of "the Green of Clackmannan," with his wife, Margaret Beveridge, had, on the 10th January 1640, a son baptized, named William. William Alexander died in August 1664. His testament-dative was given up on the 19th August 1664 by Archibald and

William Alexander, "his sons and only executors." He is described as "umquhill William Alexander in Greene of Clackmannan, who deceased in August instant." His movable estate is valued at £106 Scots (Stirling Com. Reg.).

Archibald, elder son of William Alexander and Margaret Beveridge, married Catherine Graham, and was father of a son, David, born in 1676, and two daughters—Janet, born in 1670, and Catherine, born in 1673 (Clackmannan Parish Reg.).

William Alexander, second son of William Alexander and Margaret Beveridge, married Janet Peat, and had a son, Francis, born May 1674. Francis Alexander married Marion Thomson, and had a son, Charles, born in January 1704.

William Alexander of Ferrieton* and Janet Younger, both of the parish of Clackmannan, were, on the 13th July 1638, proclaimed in order to marriage. Of this marriage were born a son, William, and five daughters —Katherine, born 1640; Eupham, born 1641; Elizabeth, born 1644; Magdaline, born 1646; and Margaret, born subsequent to 1647.†

* On the 7th August 1629, William Coustoun and Margaret Alexander had their daughter Catherine baptized, William Alexander in Ferrieton being present as a witness. The baptism of their son William, 6th October 1631, was witnessed by Edward Bruce, of the family of Bruce of Kennet; and on the 14th September 1645, their son Harie was baptized in presence of Harie Bruce, younger of Clackmannan, and Mr Robert Bruce of Kennet. Margaret Alexander was sister of William Alexander in Ferrieton, and her husband, William Coustoun, was probably a son of Robert Coustoun in Menstry, mentioned in the will of William Alexander in Westerton of Menstry, who died in 1611.

† There is a blank in the baptismal record of Clackmannan from 1647 to 1666.

William, the elder or only son, was baptized on the 12th February 1642, in presence of Mr Robert Bruce of Kennet.* He married Isabel Younger, by whom he had a son, David, born in 1677, and a daughter, Jean, born in 1679. He died in 1687, and his remains were deposited in the parochial churchyard, where an altar tombstone bears his initials and those of his wife, accompanied by the following rhyme:

"All ye that passing view
This monument of mine,
Before to dust ye turn,
Repent and mourn in time."

In the inventory of his effects, Robert Bruce of Kennet is named as owing him £100 (Stirling Com. Reg.).

In July 1674, Andrew Alexander,† of the parish of Logie, married, first, Margaret, daughter of William Alexander in Ferrieton. Of this marriage were born four sons—William, born 1676; Hugh, January 1678; John, July 1684; and George, March 1687; also, two daughters—Janet, born June 1675; and Magdaline, born October 1681. Andrew Alexander married, secondly, 8th April 1689, Mary Ferguson, by whom he had a daughter, Margaret, born January 1690, and a son, James, born April 1691.

Magdaline, second daughter of Andrew Alexander, married, 28th November 1700, Robert Ramsay of

* Ancestor of the present Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

† Andrew Alexander was second son of John Alexander in Manor Neuk, parish of Logie (see pedigree of the family of Alexander of Manor Neuk). As "Andrew Alexander in Logye," he is in the Burgh Records of Stirling named as an assessor on the annual inquest or commission for fixing the market price of victuals in the burgh and neighbourhood.

the parish of Clackmannan. William, the eldest son, married, 25th April 1707, Janet Drummond, and had a son, Hugh, born June 1708, and a daughter, Janet, born October 1709 (Clackmannan Parish Register).

John, second son of Andrew Alexander by Margaret Alexander, his first wife, married, first, on the 29th July 1720, Margaret Gray of the parish of Airth; and secondly, on the 25th August 1735, Janet Galbraith. By his first marriage he had two sons—James, born September 1724; and Alexander, born December 1729; a daughter, Margaret, born 1727, who died in infancy, and two daughters, twins, Margaret and Christian, born 1732. By his second marriage he had four sons—William, born May 1739; John, born 1740; Robert, born 1742; and Charles, a twin, born 1746 (Charles settled at Charleston in America); also, three daughters—Anne, born 1736; Janet, born 1738; and Jean, a twin, born 1746.

James, eldest son of John Alexander by Margaret Gray, his first wife, rented the farm of Broadcarse, in the parish of Clackmannan. He married, first, 13th December 1754, Mary M'Vey, and secondly, Helen White. He died in 1802. He had four sons —Alexander, born October 1756; John, born July 1758; Thomas, born May 1768; and James, born March 1773; also, three daughters—Mary, born March 1762; Margaret, born April 1764; and Lilias, born April 1766.

James, the youngest son, married Margaret Morris, and had a son, born 20th April 1787.

Alexander Alexander, eldest son of James Alexander, tenant in Broadcarse, by his first wife, Mary M'Vey, succeeded his father in the lease of that farm. He married Katherine Morrison, who died 13th June 1798. He died 28th August 1832. He had five sons —James, born 10th January 1783; John, born 5th August 1784; John, born 18th October 1788; Alexander, born 3d December 1792; and Ebenezer, born 16th April 1797; also three daughters—Jean, born 12th May 1786; Mary, born 21st July 1790; and Katherine, born 19th March 1798. The sons of Alexander Alexander and Katherine Morrison died without issue, with the exception of Alexander, the fourth son.

Alexander Alexander, son of Alexander Alexander, tenant in Broadcarse, was born 2d December 1792. He became a shipowner in Kincardine-on-Forth, and there resided till his death, which took place on the 11th September 1874. He married, 18th January 1825, Anne, daughter of Charles Jameson, shipowner, Kincardine (born 29th March 1796), and by her had three sons and three daughters. Janet, the eldest daughter, born 2d February 1828, married her cousin, Robert Rintoul, merchant, Glasgow; Catherine, born 14th March 1834, and Anne, born 8th November 1836, are both unmarried. Alexander, the eldest son, born 17th October 1825, and Ebenezer, the third son, born

6th February 1832, are unmarried. Charles Jameson, the second son, born 6th May 1830, is an extensive manufacturer at Hawick, and owner of the Jawcraig collieries, Stirlingshire. He married, 19th June 1860, Bethia, daughter of William Scott, Esq., by whom he has had six sons—Alexander, William Scott, Charles Jameson, Ebenezer, Walter Scott, and Alfred George; and one daughter, Anne Jameson.

The family tombstone in the parish churchyard of Clackmannan contains, besides the initials of William Alexander in Ferrieton, and Janet Younger, formerly quoted, the initials of John Alexander, born in 1684, and his two wives, Margaret Gray and Janet Galbraith; the initials of James Alexander, first tenant in Broadcarse, and his first wife, Mary M'Vey; and the initials of Alexander Alexander, tenant in Broadcarse, and of his wife, Katherine Morrison.

CHAPTER XVII.

FAMILY OF ALEXANDER OF MANOR NEUK AND WESTERTON, BRIDGE OF ALLAN.

JOHN ALEXANDER "in Manor Neuk," parish of Logie, Stirlingshire, died before the 15th March 1683, as appears from his son William's contract of marriage, dated on that day. He had two sons, William and Andrew, and a daughter, Jean. Andrew Alexander, the second son, married Margaret, daughter of William Alexander in Ferrieton, and became ancestor of the family of Alexander of Clackmannan and Kincardine-on-Forth. He is a witness to the marriage-contract of his brother William, dated 15th March 1683, in which he is styled his "brother-german."

Jean, daughter of John Alexander in Manor Neuk, married William Mercer (or Marshall), "at the New Mylne of Tullibodie." Their contract is dated 23d October 1686. On the 17th December following she granted a discharge to her brother William for her dowry of 200 merks Scots. She survived her husband, and, as his widow, granted on the 4th January 1721 an assignation to her brother William, whom

failing, to his son James, of a bond by Malcolm Alexander, feuar in Alloa.

William Alexander, eldest son of John Alexander of Manor Neuk, married, first, in March 1683, Isobel, daughter of John Adam in Corspatrick (Marriage-Contract); and secondly, in February 1718, Elizabeth Campbell (Marriage-Contract). On the 30th January 1721, he made a disposition *mortis causa* in favour of his youngest son, James Alexander. Elizabeth Campbell survived her husband, and married, secondly, John Stalker at Calseyhead, with whose consent she, on the 20th November 1722, granted a discharge to James Alexander, merchant in Stirling, son of her late husband.

William Alexander of Manor Neuk had two sons, John and James, and four daughters, Helen, Isobel, Margaret, and Catherine. Helen, the eldest daughter, married, in November 1709, George Mercer, at New Mylne of Tullibody (Marriage-Contract). She died before the 3d December 1718, when her husband was about to enter on a second marriage. They had an only child, Isobel Mercer; she received from her father a bond of 700 merks Scots, dated 3d December 1718, in which he mentions her mother as "a kind and beautiful woman."

Isobel, second daughter of William Alexander, married James Alexander in Mains of Menstry (Contract dated 19th March 1717). Her dowry was 500 merks. James Alexander died on the 20th

November 1767, about his eighty-sixth year. Isobel Alexander died 27th May 1779, aged about eighty-eight years. They left children.

Margaret, third daughter of William Alexander in Manor Neuk, married James Taylor, in West Cambus. On the 6th November 1724, they granted a discharge to James Alexander for 300 merks.

Catherine, fourth daughter of William Alexander in Manor Neuk, married John Kidston in Craigton. She died before the 8th May 1721, leaving a daughter, Catherine Kidston, wife of John Dickson in West Grange.

John, elder son of William Alexander in Manor Neuk, received from his father an assignation, dated 8th September 1718, to half of his crops and other substance, "in order to his livelihood and sensible marriage." He married, first, in 1719, Elizabeth Campbell, and, secondly, about 1735, Agnes Forman. He was father of five sons—William, born 1720; John, born 1727; James, born 1737; William, born 1739; and John, born 1742; also, six daughters—Janet, born 1722; Isobel, born 1724; Helen, born 1729; Marion, born 1732; Jean, born 1736; and Agnes, born 1740.

John, second son of John Alexander in Manor Neuk, succeeded his father in the lease of that farm, and on the 21st January 1766, married Lilias Menteith.

James, second son of William Alexander in Manor

Neuk, was born in November 1694. On the 11th October 1718, he granted to his father a discharge for all sums of money falling to him through the decease of his mother, Isobel Adam. On the 30th January 1721, his father having previously provided for his other children, settled all his property on him under certain restrictions and provisions (Family Papers). On the 12th May 1722, he was admitted a burgess of Stirling, "qua guildbrother" (Guildry Records of Stirling). On the 3d March 1733, he is in the Burgh Records of Stirling named as town treasurer. He was elected Dean of Guild in 1734. He subsequently held office as a magistrate. He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of James Gib, merchant, Stirling (Contract dated 9th June 1722), who died on the 8th April 1742; he married, secondly, on the 28th April 1743, Sarah, eldest daughter of Rev. Archibald Hamilton, minister of the first charge of Stirling. He died 5th November 1754, having issue by his first marriage, five sons—James, William, John, Robert, and Thomas; and seven daughters — Mary, Isobel, Elizabeth (1st), Elizabeth (2d), Jean, Margaret, and Janet.

Mary, eldest daughter of Bailie James Alexander of Stirling, was baptized 18th August 1723. She married, December 1757, George Munro, Canongate, Edinburgh. Isobel, second daughter, born 16th March 1725, died unmarried. Elizabeth (1st), born 17th November 1726, died in childhood. Elizabeth

(2d) married, in December 1766, Robert Melville, Stirling; and, secondly, Bailie Adam of the same place. Jean, fifth daughter, born 30th April 1737, married Provost Edmond* of Stirling, and had a son John, born 26th December 1773, and two daughters—Elizabeth, born December 1774; and Agnes, born 9th November 1775.

Margaret, sixth daughter of Bailie James Alexander, born 31st March 1738, married James Adam, and died 24th February 1832. Janet, youngest daughter of Bailie Alexander, born 5th April 1740, married, before the 27th October 1762, John Crawford, Canonmills, Edinburgh.

William, second son of Bailie James Alexander, born 18th February 1730, was an officer in the Customs. John, third son, born 7th July 1731, was purser of the "Monarch." He died before the 31st March 1789, when his brother James was served his "heir-general" (Index of Services). Robert, fourth son, born 6th March 1734, settled in Stirling and became a magistrate of the burgh. Thomas, fifth son, was born on the 27th October 1735.

* In his "History of Stirlingshire," Sir Robert Sibbald relates an anecdote in relation to an ancestor of Provost Edmond. Some time in the latter half of the sixteenth century, the son of a baker in Stirling, named Edmond, a boy of ten, pilfered a small coin from the collection-plate at the door of the High Church. Afraid of detection, he left the place, and for many years was unheard of. He had proceeded to the Continent, where he became a recruit in the army of Maurice, Prince of Orange. In the course of time he attained the rank of colonel, and having amassed a fortune, quitted the army and returned to Stirling. He now publicly acknowledged his offence, and by way of compensation, built a manse for the minister of the High Church.

James, eldest son of Bailie James Alexander of Stirling, was born 20th June 1728. He became a merchant in the burgh, and on the 31st August 1750 was entered on the burgess-roll (Town Council Records of Stirling). He was Provost of Stirling in 1770, in which year he was elected Commissioner to the Convention of Burghs. In the minute of his election he is described as "a man fearing God, of the true Protestant religion publicly professed and authorised by the laws of the kingdom, without suspicion to the contrary, expert of the common affairs of the burgh, merchant, gildbrother, and inhabitant within the said burgh, bearing all portable charges with his neighbours, bearing a part of the public burdens, and who can tine and win in all these affairs."

In 1775 Provost Alexander entered into a private contract with two other members of the Town Council to secure to themselves the entire management of the burgh during their several lives, and for that purpose to influence the elections annually in order to secure as members of Council those who would give them unqualified support. A copy of this contract having been discovered by some unfriendly persons, an action was brought against the provost in the Court of Session, which, among other consequences, led to the disfranchisement of the burgh. The burgh was not restored to its privileges for several years.

Provost Alexander married, in February 1764, Euphan Mayne, relict of James Henderson of Westerton, in the parish of Logie. She died 19th October 1811. Provost Alexander died on the 4th February 1805. He had two sons—James, born 23d August 1765, who died 4th January 1796; and Edward, born 22d May 1767.

Edward Alexander some time engaged in merchandise at Stirling. He was entered on the burgess-roll 19th June 1793 (Town Council Records of Stirling). In 1807 he purchased the estate of Powis, in the parish of Logie, for £26,500. On the 18th August 1795, he married Jenny Colquhoun, who died 20th January 1796. He married, secondly, on 25th October 1802, Catherine, daughter of John Glas, Esq., Provost of Stirling, descended from the ancient family of Glas of Sauchie; she died in 1865. Edward Alexander of Powis died 13th September 1835, aged sixty-eight. By his second wife, Catherine Glas, he had two sons and three daughters.

Euphemia Mayne, eldest daughter of Edward Alexander of Powis, was born 8th December 1807, and died 21st February 1823. Mary Bryce, second daughter, born 8th November 1809, married James Colquhoun, Esq., barrister-at-law, now of Berlin, Canada West. Catherine Glas, third daughter, born 13th August 1814, married John Macarthur Moir, Esq. of Milton; he died 14th December 1871.

John, second son of Edward Alexander of Powis,

was born 12th April 1806. In October 1822 he succeeded to the estate of Westerton, Bridge of Allan, on the death of his relative, Dr John Henderson, when he assumed the name of Henderson. He joined the army as cornet in the 4th Light Dragoons in 1824, and retired in 1844 a major in the Rifle Brigade. He afterwards served as an officer in the Stirlingshire Militia. He died unmarried on the 24th April 1858.

James Edward Alexander, eldest son of Edward Alexander, was born on the 16th October 1803. After studying at the universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, he proceeded to India, on the recommendation of his relative, Sir Thomas Munro, then Governor of Madras. He served in the Madras Light Cavalry, and after passing an examination in Oriental languages, was appointed adjutant of the Governor's Body Guard. He was afterwards transferred to H.M. 13th Light Dragoons, and proceeded to the Burman war in 1825. On the restoration of peace, he became an attaché of the Persian Mission of Sir John Macdonald Kinneir, and took part with the Persian army against the Russians. Declining a professorship at the College of Heylebury, and joining the senior department of the Military College, he received a certificate of the first class, and was promoted to a lieutenancy in the 16th Lancers. Finishing his military studies, he joined the Royal Engineers at Chatham, under Sir Charles Paisley, and proceeded to

Russia to act with the army of Field-Marshal Diebitch against the Turks. On his return to the Crimea in a Russian frigate in which the plague appeared, he was placed in quarantine at Sebastopol. Suspected of being an emissary of the British Government, he was confined two months in Sebastopol along with other prisoners, and finally sent to St Petersburg. Obtaining liberation, he returned to England by Sweden and Denmark, and was promoted as captain unattached. He was next employed by the Colonial Office. From the Under Secretary of State he received letters to various governors in North and South America and the West Indies, and reporting the state of slavery previous to emancipation, was examined before a committee of the House of Lords. He now joined the 42d Regiment, and soon afterwards was invited by the Geographical Society to undertake an expedition to explore the interior of South Africa. To gain geographical knowledge of some parts of Africa, he went to Portugal, and joining the Queen's army against Don Miguel, was made a lieut.-colonel by the Emperor Don Pedro; he then proceeded round the west coast of Africa, in H.M.S. "Thelia," visiting nine settlements. Arrived at the Cape, war was commencing with the Caffres; the time was unfavourable for exploration, and he joined the troops of Sir Benjamin D'Urban in the field, and became his aide-de-camp. After the war of 1835 he proceeded into the interior, explored and reported on

the countries of the great Namaquas, Boshmans, and Hill Damaras, and discovered the Orange River. On arriving in England he was knighted for his services. As captain in the 14th Regiment, he next served in America. There he undertook the arduous duty of surveying for a military road through the forests of New Brunswick and Canada, from Quebec to Halifax. Having served several years as aide-de-camp to Sir Benjamin D'Urban and Sir William Rowan, successively commanders-in-chief in British North America, he joined a depot battalion in Ireland. Having raised the second battalion of the 14th Regiment, he proceeded therewith to New Zealand to engage in the Maori war. Under Sir Duncan Cameron, he commanded the outposts of the Waikato.

Sir James Alexander has published "Travels from India to England, by way of Burmah, Persia, and Turkey," "Excursions in Western Africa," "Sketches in Portugal," "Transatlantic Sketches," "L'Aoadie; or, Seven Years' Explorations in North America," "Canada as it is, and may be," "Passages in the Life of a Soldier," "Travels through Russia and the Crimea," "Incidents of the Maori War," and "Bush-fighting in New Zealand." He has also edited a Life of the Duke of Wellington, "Salmon Fishing in Canada," and other works, and executed several important translations. Sir James succeeded to the estate of Westerton in 1858, on the death of his brother. He is a major-general in the army, and

a Knight-Commander of the Lion and Sun and of St John of Jerusalem. He holds the military order of the Bath; also the Turkish order of the Medjidie. By his wife, Eveline Marie, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Charles Cornwallis Michell, K.H., K.B.A., Surveyor-General, Cape of Good Hope, and maternally descended from the French family of D'Aragon of Touronne, he has four sons; also one daughter, who died in infancy. Edward Mayne Alexander, younger of Westerton, the eldest son, is lieutenant of the 78th Highlanders; Ranald Michell, second son, is captain of the Royal Perth Rifles; Herbert Rowan, third son, is lieutenant 21st R. N. B. Fusiliers; the fourth son, Gerald D'Aragon, is a student of Cheltenham College.

CHAPTER XVIII.

FAMILIES OF ALEXANDER OF DRUMELDRIE, SKEDDOWAY, INNERGELLIE, ANSTRUTHER, AND PITTENWEEM, FIFESHIRE.

On the lands of the church, prior to the Reformation, settled a class of persons who, from being related to the clergy, or from having invested capital in the improvement of the soil, were permitted to occupy their farms on easy terms, and by a sort of perpetual tenure. At the dissolution of the religious houses, these having derived to their holdings a sort of prescriptive right, were allowed to obtain permanent possession on moderate payments. They became known as *lairds* or "portioners."

Members of the family of Alexander of Menstry seemed to have acquired the position of *kindly tenants* (as the class were termed) on church lands in Fifeshire. Of these, the first whose name appears on record is George Alexander, whose will, recorded in the Commissariat Register of Edinburgh, is dated 29th March 1577. His successor as "portioner" of Drumeldrie was Thomas Alexander, who is mentioned in the General Register of Deeds on the 16th

March 1590 (vol xxxv. 260). He married Isabel Balfour, who died in 1613; and, secondly, Katherine Hay, who survived him. By his first marriage he had a son William, who married Alison Orrock, and by whom he had three sons—Thomas, William, and John. William Alexander was survived by his wife, who married, secondly, Captain Walter Cockburn of Johnstone Mills, Fifeshire (Lamont's Diary; Register of Deeds, vol. 491).

Thomas, eldest son of William Alexander, is, in the renunciation of an annual rent of £500 to Mr Alexander Gibson, Clerk of Session, dated 30th November 1635, described as "oy and air of umquhil Thomas Alexander, portioner of Drumeldrie," his "guidschir," consent being indicated by Katherine Hay, relict of the latter (Register of Deeds, vol. 491).

Thomas Alexander succeeded as portioner of Drumeldrie. He married, first, Margaret Auchmutie, who died before 1636, and had by her Thomas, born in 1633; Lyston; and a daughter, Isobel, who married, 7th January 1659, Alexander Clarke of Pitteuchar, parish of Kinglassie, Fifeshire (Lamont's Diary). By his second marriage he had three sons—John, David, and James—and a daughter—Anne.

Anne Alexander was born in 1642; she married, on the 2d September 1664, the Rev. George Stirling, minister of Baldernock, in the county of Dumbarton. "They were maried," writes John Lamont, "by Mr John Afleck, minister of Newburne, privately in the

evening, without publicke proclamation, be vertue of a warrand from St Androus, from Mr Andro Hinniman, Bishope of Orkenay, being, for that tyme, still Arch-deane of St Androus, and in Mr Sharpe, Archbishope, his absence" (Lamont's Diary; Fasti Eccl. Scot., vol. ii., p. 339).

Thomas Alexander married, thirdly, in 1646, Margaret Brown, who died in 1654. Of this marriage were born three sons—Gilbert, baptized 4th June 1650; ——, baptized 21st June 1651; and David, baptized 17th August 1654 (Kinglassie Parish Register). Thomas Alexander succeeded to the estate of Skeddoway, in Kinglassie parish (probably on the death of Alexander Alexander) in 1649, and removed thither in October of that year (Lamont's Diary).

Thomas Alexander, eldest son of Thomas Alexander of Drumeldrie and Skeddoway, married, 2d September 1658, Jean, daughter of the late David Colville, son of Lord Colville of Ochiltree, receiving with her a dowry of 6000 merks (Lamont's Diary). They had two sons—John, born 1669, and Robert, born 1670—and three daughters—Margaret, born 1663, Agnes, born 1664, and Jean, born 1665 (Kinglassie Parish Reg.). Drumeldrie was sold in 1672, by Thomas Alexander, elder and younger (Wood's East Neuk). Thomas Alexander the elder died prior to February 1684.

John, son of Thomas Alexander of Drumeldrie and Skeddoway by his second marriage, born 1637,

was a Writer to the Signet at Edinburgh. He married, first, 16th December 1658, Agnes Anderson; secondly, on the 24th April 1662, Jean Arnot, by whom he had four sons—John, born 1663, died in infancy; John, born in March 1665; David, born August 1668; and Robert, born February 1673; also two daughters—Anna, born April 1667, and Catherine, born November 1670.

James Alexander, youngest son of Thomas Alexander of Drumeldrie and Skeddoway, became a regent in the University of St Andrews. He married, about the year 1668, Rachel, daughter of David Aytoun of Kinaldie. According to Lamont, Andrew Aytoun, a Lord of Session, by the title of Lord Kinglassie, died on the 25th March 1670; and, having no children of his own, bequeathed his estate of Kinglassie to Mr James Alexander, "his lady's sister's son," and his brother's second daughter (Lamont's Diary). James Alexander of Kinglassie was father of two sons—Andrew, born July 1680, and James, born June 1686—and five daughters—Rachel, born May 1669, Helen, born July 1671, Jane, born May 1673, Margaret, born August 1675, and Anna, born April 1683 (Kinglassie Parish Reg.).

David Alexander, second son of Thomas Alexander of Drumeldrie by his second marriage, was an advocate in Edinburgh. He died unmarried in 1689; and on the 21st November of that year, the three surviving daughters of James Alexander of Kinglassie—

Helen, Janet, and Margaret—were served heirs-portioners of his estate. In the Register of Sasines they are styled "Alexanders *alias* Aytouns" (General Reg. of Sasines, xli. 1).

William Alexander, second son of Thomas Alexander of Drumeldrie, became portioner of Boarhills, in the parish of St Andrews. He is mentioned on the 15th February 1649, in "An Act of the Estates, for putting the kingdom in a posture of defence" (Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vi., p. 376). In 1649 he sold his lands of Boarhills to Aytoun of Kinaldie. John Lamont writes: "He came and dwelt at St Androus, where his wyfe was a litell distracted, bot afterwards recovered." According to the same authority, when his eldest brother, Thomas, left Drumeldrie for Skeddoway, in October 1649, he proceeded to the former place, to take charge of cultivating the estate. He was killed by an accident (a cart-wheel passing over his breast), on the 23d December 1652 (Lamont's Diary). His wife, Janet, daughter of Robert Aytoun of Inchdairnie, died in 1663. He had a son, John, baptized 17th May 1640 (Kinglassie Parish Register), and other three sons—David, James, and Andrew. Predeceased by his four sons, William Alexander was succeeded in certain lands by his father's third son, John Alexander, minister of Cults (Gen. Reg. of Sasines, vol. xxi., No. 132). John Alexander studied at the University of St Andrews, where he graduated in 1632. He was ordained minister of Cults in 1643,

and was translated to Creich in 1654. He conformed to episcopacy, and died unmarried in February 1684. aged about seventy-two. He left the ann or half-year's stipend, due subsequent to his decease, to Gilbert Alexander, eldest son of his elder brother by his third marriage; but the Lords of Session found, 18th March 1686, that it could not be disposed of by will, but belonged to his sister as nearest of kin (Fasti Eccl. Scot., vol., ii., pp. 482, 484).

A member of the House of Drumeldrie, Robert Alexander "in Montfleurie," parish of Scoonie, executed his testamentary settlement on the 23d January 1583. Among the witnesses are William Dudingston, apparent of St Ford, and Richard Carmichael of Ederny, and other persons of position and substance (Edinburgh Com. Reg., vol. xxxii.).

Robert Alexander, maltman in Anstruther, died in May 1577. In his will, he left "his bodie to be buriet in the kirkyaird of Kilrynnie," and bequeathed "his entire substance to Elspeth Lummesden his spous," whom he nominated, along with "John Alexander his sone, his undoubted executouris" (Com. Reg. of Edinburgh, vol. v.).

John Alexander, "maltman in Anstruther," son of the preceding, died on the 12th January 1589. The Inventory of his goods, "made and given up be William and Agnes Alexanderis, his lauchful bairnes," was valued, with the debts, at £397, 14s. 4d. Scots. The Lairds of Anstruther and

Balfour are named as his creditors (Edin. Com. Reg., vol. xxi.).

Alexander Alexander, described in his testament-dative as "in Inergellie, within the parochin of Kilrynny," died on the 28th October 1598. In his will, which was executed the day preceding his decease, he appointed, as his executors, "Johnne Alexander, William, David, and Jennett Alexanders, his bairnis." The summa of his inventory was £570 Scots. Among his creditors are named William Lundie of that ilk and Robert Betoun of Balfour (Edin. Com. Reg., vol. xxxii.).

In the Register of the Great Seal, under date 24th November 1609, is recorded a charter in favour of Katherine Alexander or Spens, in the city of St Andrews (Reg. Great Seal Book, xlvi., No. 135). Katherine Alexander was probably sister of Alexander Alexander of Innergellie, in the parish of Kilrenny. The family of Spens owned the estate of Wormeston in the adjacent parish of Crail.

Janet Alexander, only daughter of Alexander Alexander in Innergellie, married John Balmanno, merchant-citizen of St Andrews; her will is dated 16th February 1618 (Com. Reg. of St Andrews).

On the 10th January 1622, John Alexander, described as "indweller in Innergellie," and Elspeth Barclay, his spouse, obtained sasine of "a tenement and yard in the burgh of Kilrynnie" (Gen. Reg. of Sasines, vol. ix., fol. 248).

John Alexander, styled "burges of Anstruther," executed his will on the 13th July 1618 (Com. Reg. of St Andrews). He left a son, George, who, by a contract, dated at London and Anstruther on the 19th and 30th March 1628, disponed to Robert Alexander, his father's brother, for the sum of 2000 merks, "an annual rent of 26 bolls bear furth of the lands of Innergellie, to which the said Mr George had right by contract between the late William Barclay of Innergellie and Margaret Borthwick, his spouse, on the one part, and the said late John Alexander and —— Barboure, his spouse, on the other, with their children, by which the said annual rent was disponed to the latter, in security of 2000 merks —under reversion" (Register of Deeds, vol. 477).

Robert Alexander, burgess of Pittenweem, had a son, William (Register of Deeds, vol. 492). William Alexander became a burgess of Anstruther; he had four sons, John, Robert, David, and James, and a daughter, Christina (Special Retours; Reg. of Deeds, vol. 492).

In the parish churchyard of Anstruther Easter, a tombstone, having inscribed on one side the arms of the House of Alexander, commemorates on the other William Alexander, probably a descendant of Alexander Alexander in Innergellie, in the following inscription:

"Hic jacet honestus vir Gulielmus Alexander, quondam ballivus burgi de Anstruther, qui obiit 15 Januarii 1640, aetatis suæ 38."

Another tombstone, in the same churchyard, commemorates, by a Latin inscription, Isobel Alexander, wife of William Black, bailie of Anstruther, who died 19th February 1640, aged fifty-one.

John Alexander, probably elder son of William Alexander, described as "of Anstruther Easter," married, first, on the 12th August 1652, Bessie Darling of South Leith; and secondly, Janet Ramsay of South Leith (Parish Register of South Leith).

Robert Alexander, a merchant in Anstruther Easter, was chosen one of the magistrates and commissioners for the burgh in Parliament. Through the influence of Sir William Alexander of Menstry, he procured, in 1630, a letter from Charles I. to the Privy Council, proposing the erection of a general fishery. The letter was laid before a Parliament, which met at Holyrood in July 1630, and the subject was referred to a commission. Of that commission Robert Alexander was a member. In the following November, negotiations were entered upon with the English commissioners anent the erecting of a common fishery; and on the 7th September 1632, a royal charter was granted, constituting a large number of persons "first and present Fellows of the Community of the Fishery Society of Great Britain and Ireland." Among these are the names of "William, Viscount of Stirling," "Robert Alexander," and "David Alexander" (Acta Parl. Scot.).

David Alexander, named as one of the Fellows of the Fishery Society, was younger brother of Robert. In letters of reprisal granted by Charles I. under the Great Seal, on the 20th April 1626, he is styled "Captain David Alexander, master of a ship of Anstruther called the 'James.'" By these letters he was empowered, "on account of injuries done to the King of England by the King of Spain, to arm and fit out his ship, and go to sea, and pursue, attack, and sink all ships of Spain, as well under the rule of the Infant Isabella in Western Flanders as any others" (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ii., No. 360, fol. 249).

On the 22d July 1626, as "owner of the gude ship called the 'James' of Anstruther," Captain David Alexander granted a disposition in favour of Sir John Scot of Scotstarvet, Director of the Chancery, "for the sixteenth part of the said ship." For his share of that ship, and of another, Sir John Scot paid Captain Alexander the sum of £1437, 10s. Scots (Register of Deeds, vol. 506).

On the 2d April 1627, the following royal letter to the Exchequer indicates the further employment of Captain David Alexander in the public service:

"To the Exchequer.

"Right, &c. Whereas upon good considerations wee were pleased of a long tyme by past to sign a signature in favour of ane David Alexander, for being our Chieffe Work Maister for fortifications within that o^r^ kingdome, who (as wee are crediblie informed) hath been stayed here upon employments of the like nature by o^r^ right trustie the Duke of Buckingham, therefore

our pleasure is that you cause expede the said signature with all diligence, according to the tenure thereof.

"WHYTHALL, *the 2d day of Aprill* 1627" (Register of Letters).

David Alexander enjoyed a continuance of the royal favour. The following letter of Charles I. to the Scottish Privy Council is dated at Whitehall, 3d January 1627:

"TO THE COUNSELL.

"Right, &c. We are pleased, for certain reasons known unto us, That the Shipp laden with ore taken by Captain Alexander should be restrained till our further pleasure were known; but hearing from you that she is claimed by the Hollanders as belonging unto them, it is not our will that our neighbouring States, and cheeflie our friends and confederates should want the benefit of speedie justice within anie of o^r^ kingdomes. And as wee highlie approve and comend the courage and endeavours of such of o^r^ subjects as by warrants hath gone against the common ennemie, desyring that they may enjoye all the lawfull benefits of theire labours, and have all encouragement for prosecuting of theire comendable course that can be convenientlie afforded unto them. So wee desire not that anie thing should be done to the prejudice of other States against the lawes of Nations, and usuall course of Justice, for doeing whereof we will give order to our Admirall or his deputie, having power from us, with the assistance of such commissioners as we appoint; but, in the meantime, that the Hollanders, who are our speciall friends, may have justice with diligence, Our pleasure is, that learning from such of the Commissioners for the prises as can be had put what hath been done by their former tryall, you judge and determine whether the said Flemish shipp be a lawfull prize or not, what conduct money should have been payed to the said Captaine, or what you find any way in reason fit to be done with her, That neither the said Strangers nor the said Captaine may have just cause to complain as being defrauded of their due, The doeing whereof we remitt to y^r^ consideration."

Under favour of Lord Stirling, David Alexander was in 1633 recommended by Charles I. to the King of Poland for military service. On the 3d October of that year, the king addressed a letter to his royal brother, certifying that David Alexander was skilful in using military engines, and had been successfully employed in various military expeditions (Register of Letters).

On the 4th February 1634, a commission was granted by "Alexander, Earl of Linlithgow, Vice-Admiral of Scotland and the Isles thereof, to Robert and Captain David Alexander, burgesses of Anstruther, deputes of the said Admiraltie, within the bounds of Fife, on the east side of the water of Leven," giving them power to "repledge and reduce from all other deputes on the north of the water of Forth, and from all other judges, spiritual or temporal, all persons called or pursued before them, except such persons as shall be called or pursued before the said vice-admiral or his deputes in the courts to be held at Edinburgh or Leith, or other parts, by the said earl or his principal depute" (Gen. Reg. of Deeds, vol. 471).

The brothers, Robert and David Alexander, retained a conspicuous position in the eastern district of Fifeshire. On the 4th March 1642, Captain David Alexander was served heir to James Alexander, burgess of Anstruther, his younger brother (General Retours, xvi. 195). As a royalist captain, David

Alexander was, along with "David Achmontie, in Drumeldrie," captured by Cromwell's soldiers, when, on the 7th August 1651, they despoiled the burgh of Anstruther (Lamont's Diary).

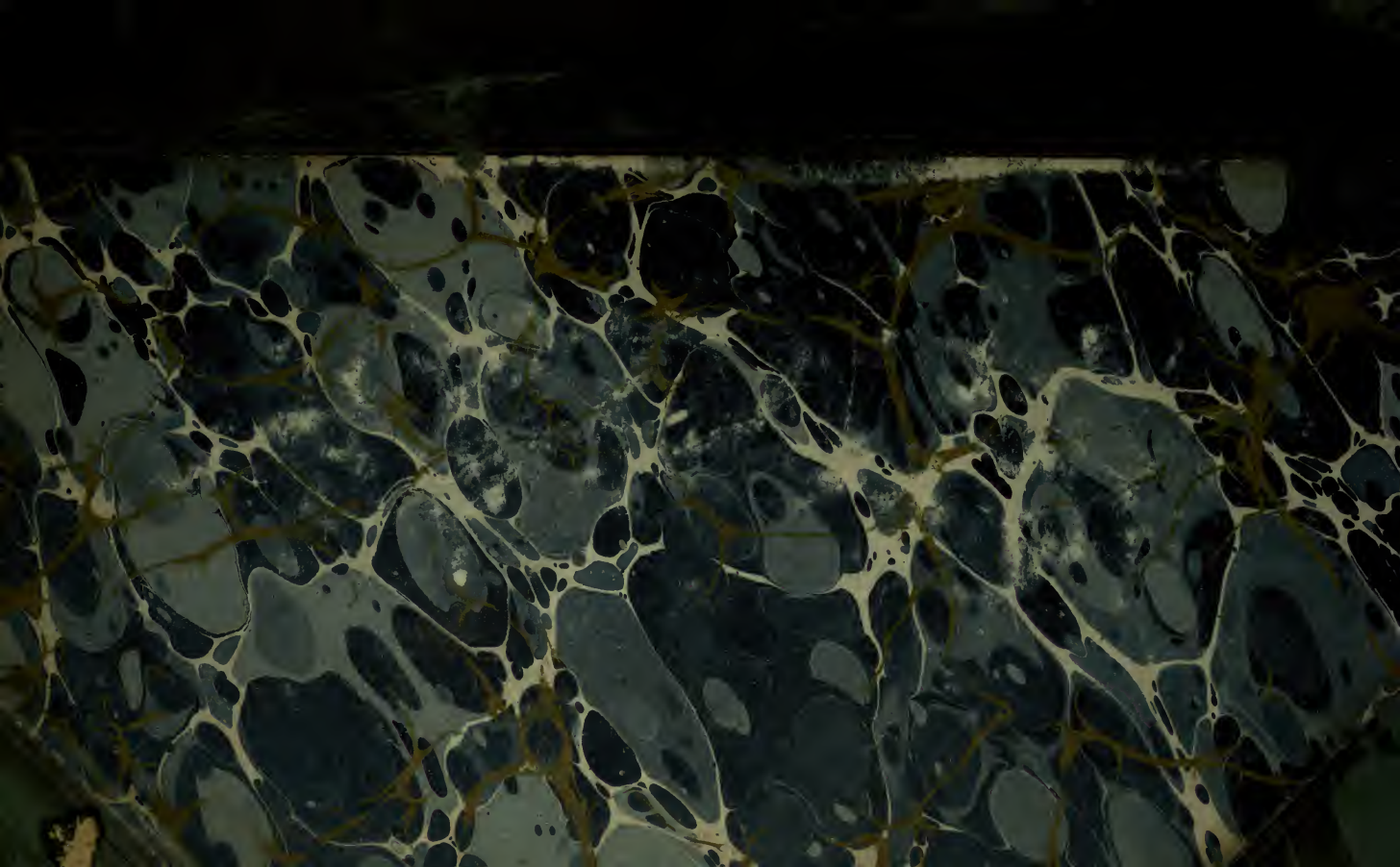
Robert Alexander received a bond for £120 from John Tweedie of Drumelzear on the 7th June 1633 (Gen. Reg. of Deeds, vol. 474). On the 6th September 1634, he granted an obligation to Christian Alexander, his sister, "for all she might claim under the will of their father, William Alexander, burgess of Anstruther" (Register of Deeds, vol. 492). He was, on the 24th March 1637, served heir of his grandfather, Robert Alexander, in two acres of land, within the burgh of Pittenweem (Special Retours, Fife, xv. 172).

As a magistrate of Anstruther Easter, Robert Alexander took a prominent part in securing the erection of a parish church, which was effected in 1636 (Burgh Records). He is mentioned in the Act for putting the kingdom in a posture of defence, dated 18th April 1648. In an Act, passed for the same purpose, on the 26th August 1643, Captain (David) Alexander of Anstruther Easter is named (Acta Parl. Scot.).

Robert Alexander married Christina, a younger daughter of Sir John Anstruther of Anstruther, who was by James VI. appointed Hereditary Grand Carver for Scotland. The house occupied by Robert Alexander and his wife, situated in the High Street of Anstruther, still remains, displaying on the front wall a triangular stone, sculptured with two shields, bearing

the arms of the husband and wife, with a monogram of their names, and the date 1631.

A widow, grand-daughter of Hugh Alexander, a joiner in Edinburgh, resides in Anstruther Easter. Hugh Alexander privately asserted a claim to the earldom of Stirling.

END OF VOLUME I.

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